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Vol. 89

DECEMBER, 1949

No. 12

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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Volume 89, No. 12

The American Bee Journal

HAMILTON, ILLINOIS

December, 1949

Managing Editor—G. H. Cale

Editors—M. G. Dadant, Frank C. Pellett, Roy A. Grout

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are the remaining six, Trade Practice Rules governing Trade Practices of the ABBA of which we are a member.

7. To notify the buyer of any unavoidable delay in shipment from the time of delivery agreed upon at the time the order is taken.

8. To guarantee safe arrival of package bees and queens, and to replace immediately any that are damaged in transit, provided the consignee secures a written statement to cover any apparent damage done in transit, on the express delivery receipt, signed in full by the express agent, and mails the same to consignor at once with a letter giving full particulars.

9. To refund promptly upon the demand of the buyer any money advanced if unable to fill his order satisfactorily according to accepted agreements.

10. To allow enough extra weight of bees at time of filling cages so as to assure fair and honest measure on arrival.

11. To make no false representations of my apriaries, queens, and bees, for advertising purposes.

12. To abide by the decision of a supervisory board in case of any dispute with the customer, the board to consist of members approved by a majority vote of the members of the American Bee Breeders Association.

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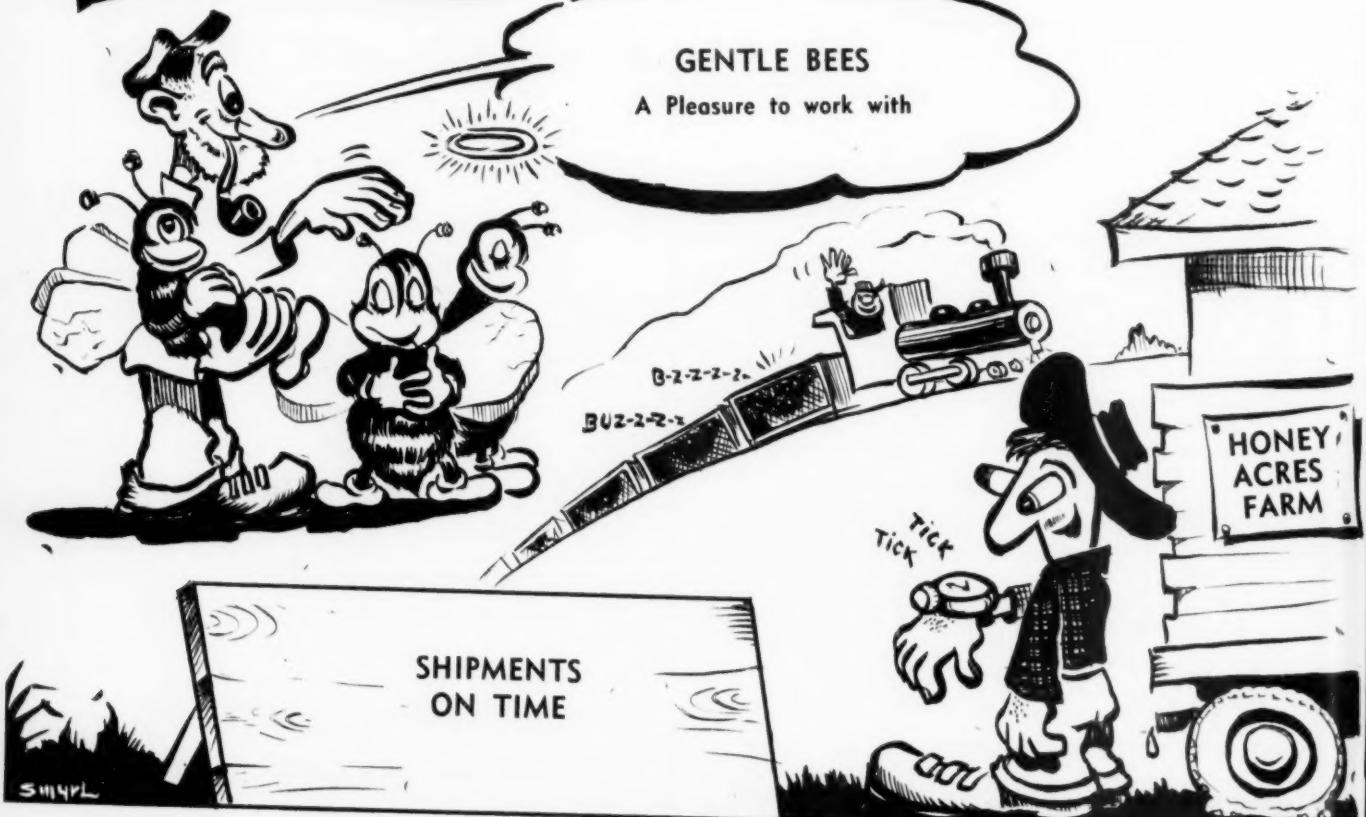
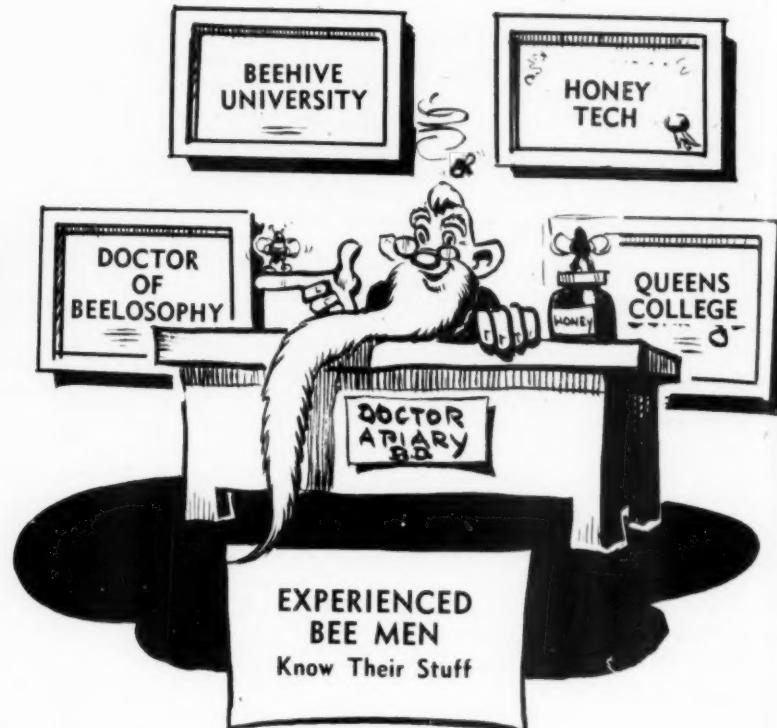
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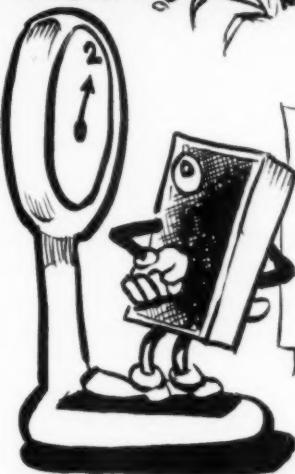
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• As We

Soil and Nectar Yield

WE CALL TO THE ATTENTION OF OUR readers a short article appearing under the authorship of Lyman E. Coe of The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation in Ardmore, Oklahoma. The Noble Foundation, as previously mentioned in our columns, is concerned with private efforts to improve the productivity and the returns from various soil areas in Oklahoma and particularly the four counties surrounding Ardmore.

While it has many times been suggested that tests be made on the variation in nectar secretion owing to soil types, as well as climatic and moisture conditions, not even any government or state agency has made a strong persistent effort in this direction.

We commend The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation on their start, and hope that they may continue to the point where at least the soils of Oklahoma and its native and introduced plants may be judged on a soil and nectar secreting basis.

The Biloxi Convention

ANOTHER STRIDE TOWARD IMPROVED organization and the solution of the problems confronting the honey industry will be made at the annual meeting of the American Beekeeping Federation January 16, 17, 18, and 19, at Biloxi, Mississippi, on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico. In conjunction with the Federation meeting, there will be meetings of the Board of the American Honey Institute, the Bee Inspectors of America, Bee Industries Association, and others. Come to Biloxi in a spirit of cooperation and optimism and work with industry leaders for the general welfare and good of the entire beekeeping industry.

The program of the convention will stress three major themes: organization, marketing,

and pollination services of honey bees. These are problems of importance to each and every member of the entire industry whether he be a honey producer, a queen rarer, a package-bee shipper, a pollinator, a honey packer, a member of a cooperative, a bee inspector, a manufacturer, or what have you.

This is the time and the place for each and everyone in the beekeeping industry to say what he thinks about the industry program. This is the place where policies are made and where the future industry program will be established. This is where changes and improvements can and will be made. If the industry program is not what you think it should be, come to Biloxi and say so; if you feel that emphasis should be directed along certain lines, tell us what you think. Progress can only be made by working together cooperatively. Your attendance at the annual meeting of the American Beekeeping Federation at Biloxi will contribute to the future success of the beekeeping industry.

The Price Support Effort

ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE APPEARS a story under the simple title, "Price Support for Honey." Our readers are urged to read and read again that part of the article which attempts to tell what price support means to the honey industry.

Briefly told the story is: (1) Recognition that honey and the pollination services of honey bees are important to our agricultural economy. (2) Stabilization of our honey markets. (3) A golden opportunity to organize effectively a national program of advertising and marketing to solve our own marketing problems. The industry **must** not fail to do this.

There probably have been only two times in the history of our industry when a concentrated and cooperative effort has been made by the honey industry. The first instance occurred

See It



when the industry went after decontrol of honey from O. P. A. regulation. The second was the price support.

Both efforts required and obtained the persistent, forceful efforts of hundreds of individuals within the industry. Few thought that either effort could be accomplished. Both efforts were led by the Federation, but both would have failed without the cooperation and support of the beekeeping industry. Both are definite examples of what can be accomplished through organization and cooperation. Only by working together can we rise as an industry and create a better way of life for ourselves and our families.

Help Ourselves

"AIDONS NOUS" (HELP OURSELVES), says J. R. Methot, Director of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec in an editorial appearing in the May issue of "L'Abeille."

Some of the ways of helping ourselves are: putting our bees into winter quarters in better shape, making sure that they are well protected and build up well in the Spring, thus lowering the cost of production by added pounds per colony; careful selection of honey locations; and fewer colonies in each apiary. But the greatest way a beekeeper has to help himself and his industry is through creating a greater demand for honey by publicity, advertising, and direct selling.

We well might emulate Methot's proposals. The province of Quebec consumes three pounds of honey per capita annually. In the U. S. A., with a population of some 140 millions, the same rate of consumption as Quebec would show a marked deficit in honey production.

Probably the Southeast and the Southern States come the closest to having a honey-conscious population. We believe a lot can be traced to the beekeepers seeing that the con-

sumer gets what he wants. Bulk comb honey still stands in front rank down there. Beekeepers in other areas have found it easier to produce extracted honey and many have found it easier to abandon their local customers without much regard to the effect of such a procedure.

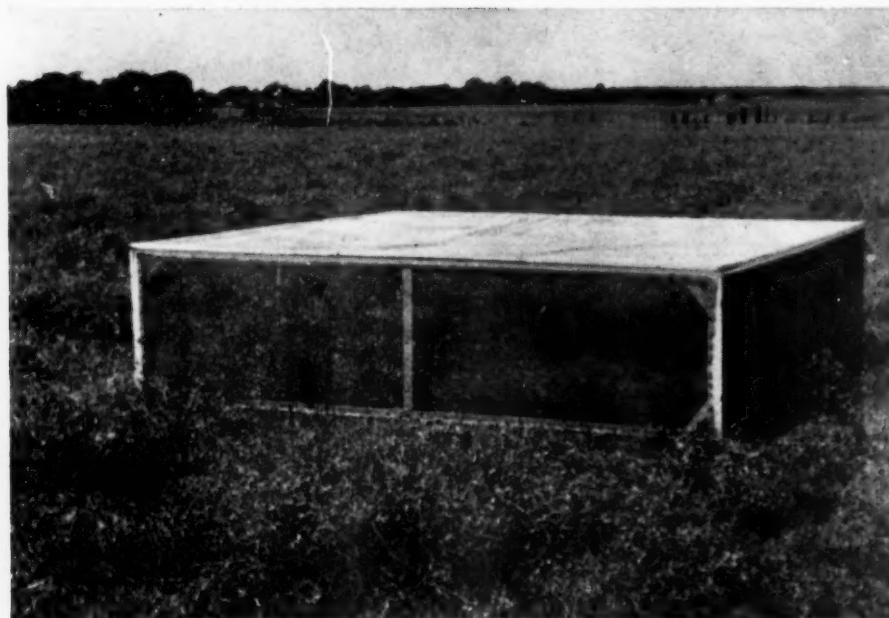
Certainly high costs of production and materials in a dropping market have created a "squeeze," but personal attention to production costs and particularly to stimulation of honey consumption would do much to relieve the situation.

Credit Where Credit Is Due

AS THE INDUSTRY STANDS ON THE threshold of price support for honey and, in full accord with the spirit of Christmas, it is well to remember to give credit where credit is due. For full recognition, credit, and appreciation should go to the South for originating and continually supporting the price support movement.

It should be told that the price support movement started in the American Bee Breeders' Association and was sponsored by its first president, Mr. E. C. Bessonet; and it was this group who through its president induced Mr. James Morrison, Congressman from Louisiana, to introduce the first Bill for price support for honey. And through the period up to the passage of the present farm legislation, price support for honey had no stronger supporters anywhere.

The gratifying part of this is revealed by the fact that this group could not benefit directly as honey producers, yet were willing to work for the general welfare of the entire industry. It is unselfish efforts of this kind that can make only for good in the beekeeping industry. In behalf of the industry, we salute the American Bee Breeders' Association and its first president, Mr. E. C. Bessonet.



Screened-in area of 100 square feet produced 5 ounces of seed.

Pollination of Hairy

The nearer the bees the better the harvest

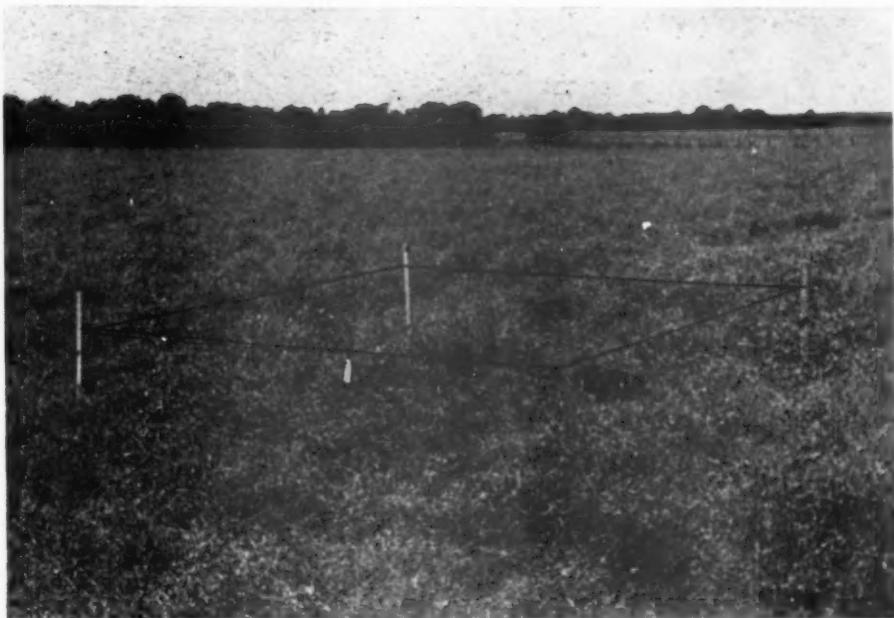
THE Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation of Ardmore, Oklahoma has started a series of experiments to show the value of bees in pollination, and if possible to see if there is a correlation between honey and seed production and soil fertility. The first of the series was started in 1949.

An area ten feet square was screened in so that the bees could not touch the vetch during the time it was in bloom. After the seed was matured, it was hand harvested. An open, similarly sized plot, immediately adjoining this one, was likewise harvested, together with one, also open, three-quarters of a mile away.

The first two of these plots were about a hundred yards from the hives. On the screened-in plot, five ounces of seed was recovered. On the one three-quarters of a mile away, twelve ounces was harvested; and from the one which was open and adjacent to the hives, eighteen ounces was recovered. It is our feel-



Apiary near the experimental plot.



This open area allowing pollination produced much more seed.

Vetch In Oklahoma

by Lyman E. Coe, Entomologist

ing that there can be no more effective agent at work for the farmer than bees, which can supplement his income both from the standpoint of honey and of seed while the legumes rehabilitate the soil.

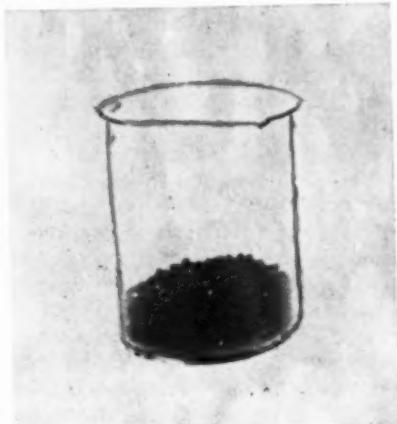
The photographs themselves are explanatory. In addition to the above information, we had germination tests made by the State Department of Agriculture of Oklahoma. The screened area showed a germination of 79 per cent; the area adjacent to the screened area and to bees a

germination of 85 per cent; and the seed harvested one-fourth mile from the apiary showed a germination of 83 per cent. This showed a balance in favor of close proximity of bees of at least 2 per cent in germination in addition to the far greater seed production as illustrated in the photographs.

If you are not familiar with such seed, all of these germinations are low compared to what they would have been if they had been made three months later.

We are now working on an experiment to see if we can find the answer to the difference in nectar flow on vetch. The particular fields that we conducted this pollination experiment on did not give us any surplus. Another field less than six air miles away produced an average of 25 pounds per colony surplus.

At the present time we are analyzing the soil, seed, and hay in both of these areas, and we may have additional information later.



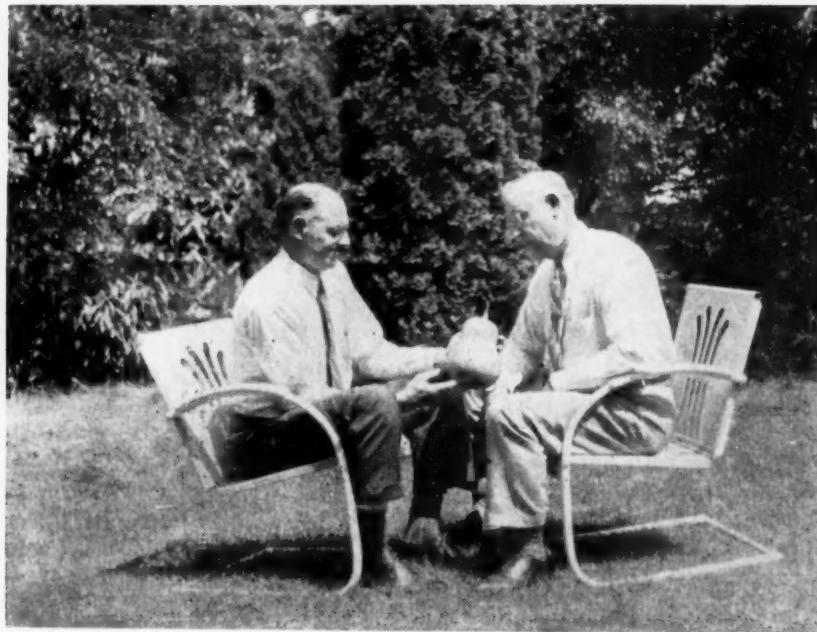
5 ounces vetch seed, hand harvested from a 100 square feet screened area, 100 yards from the apiary. This is equivalent to 136.1 pounds per acre.



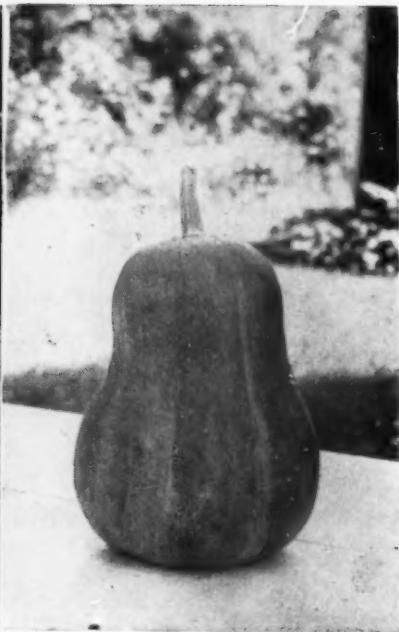
18 ounces vetch seed, hand harvested from a 100 square feet area exposed to bees and near enclosed area. Equivalent to 490 pounds per acre.



12 ounces vetch seed, hand harvested from a 100 square feet area exposed to bees, but 1/4 mile from the apiary. Equivalent to 326.7 pounds per acre.



Glenn Jones and F. B. Paddock examine the African squash grown in the American Bee Journal test garden.



An African squash nine months after harvest—still in a perfect state of preservation.

The African Squash

by Frank C. Pellett

SEED of a new squash came to our test garden in 1948 from E. B. O'Kelley, Agricultural Agent of the Atlantic Coast Railroad. We were advised that it came from Africa and was brought to Florida by a returned missionary. Since its arrival it has been tested at both the Florida and Alabama Experiment Stations and proved valuable for the South. Its value for the North seemed doubtful since it requires a long growing season.

A long row was planted in May in the test garden and its development observed with much interest. The seed germinated quickly and the vines made an amazing growth. The large leaves formed a dense shade and plants from a single hill covered the ground for a distance of as much as fifty or more feet.

The surprise came, however, in the fact that it seemed resistant to the insect pests which had about put an end to the growing of other varieties

of squash in our garden. Squash borers have caused so much injury to the vines of the Hubbard type squashes that we have given up trying to grow them. No borer injury was apparent to this African squash and even the squash bugs and cucumber beetles made so little impression as to be unimportant.

It is hard to imagine anything which will provide more food from a small area in so short a time. We kept no count of the number harvested but there were plenty for several families and all agreed that the quality was very good. Reports from Florida indicate that near ten tons per acre have been harvested there.

The fruit is irregular in shape but most of ours were shaped like a pear and from light to dark yellow in color. I am fond of squash and for once there was plenty for the winter. When Glenn Jones, secretary of the Federation made a visit to the

garden he took home a number of the new squashes for trial. In cleaning out the basement the following June he was surprised to find an African squash that had been hidden behind the furnace and was still in perfect condition. The pictures show this specimen which had been kept in a warm and dry spot in the basement for nine months without deterioration. It was a little more than one foot in length.

We regard this squash to be the equal in quality of any that we have tried and the yield is unusually heavy. The fact that it appears to be so resistant to insect injury is of special importance in localities where the pests are serious.

As far as the bees are concerned we cannot see that it is more attractive to them than any other squash. The bees do find nectar and pollen in the squash blossoms but rarely do they prove of more than of minor importance.

Discussions for 1950

"Your Discussion page strikes my fancy considerably,"—"By all means continue the discussion, to me that is the most interesting part of ABJ,"—"Keep it up so that we can learn the pro's and con's of controversial issues,"—"Each month I read that feature first, it has been of great value to me,"—"The discussion is very educational, let's heat the arguments,"—"It is very important that more beekeepers take part in these discussions."

These are a few of the comments we have received on the Discussion page. So we will continue it for another year. In order that you will have plenty of time to mull over the new subjects and send in your contributions we are listing twelve questions, one for each month of 1950.

One trouble with last year's page was that not enough different people contributed to it. We had plenty of material, but not enough variety. So

let's hear from the rest of you. Here are the new topics:

January—Should beekeeping locations be controlled by law? If so, How?

—Arnt Arneson, Wisconsin.

February—What do you consider a just payment to the beekeeper for pollination in seed or fruit production?

—Arnt Arneson, Wisconsin.

March—Does spring feeding pay?

—C. H. Pease, Connecticut.

April—What is your opinion of the direct release method of installing package bees?

—Julius Lysne, Wisconsin.

May—How and when should queens be introduced?

—Julius Lysne, Wisconsin.

June—Do you think the two-queen system increases production profitably?

—G. H. Cale, Jr., Illinois.

July—What have you found to be your most time-saving short cuts and devices for managing bees?

—Steve Taber, Wisconsin.

—Lloyd Klopfenstein, N. Dak.

August—What is the best method of marketing your honey crop?

—Frank P. Fuge, Sr., Oregon.

—Paul Ekblad, Wisconsin.

September—What have you found to be the simplest and most efficient way to winter bees?

—Julius Lysne, Wisconsin.

October—What is the best way you have found to secure beeswax from combs?

—O. G. Jordon, S. Carolina.

November—What strain or race of bees has proven most satisfactory under your conditions?

—Frank P. Fuge, Sr., Oregon.

—J. J. Schrock, Tennessee.

December—With so many types of hives in use by successful beekeepers, can it be said that one hive is any better than another?

—Arnt Arneson, Wisconsin.

Picture Contest

For two months now the announcement has been made that a contest has been started for photographs, primarily for use as cover pictures for the entire 1950 year. That each month one picture will be chosen for the cover page, and another for the large picture used to separate the departments from the rest of the magazine—what we call the "break page." For the cover picture the winner will receive ten dollars; and for the "break page picture" the winner will receive five dollars. If we keep any of the other pictures submitted to us and use them in regular pages as contributions to the

reading matter, these will be paid for at regular contributor rates. Any pictures that are not suitable will be returned to those who send them.

Not more than two pictures sent by the same person will be used during the year for the cover; and not more than two from any one person for the break page. We will try to use any pictures sent by anyone in regular contributor space, regardless of number. All payments for the cover, or break page, or contributions will be made following publication.

Now for a word about the pictures which you intend to send, there are

certain requirements that you must consider. For full page use (cover or break page) we cannot use small pictures; they should be at least five by seven inches in size. Smaller pictures will usually not enlarge to page size without losing too much detail. Also, pictures should be photographically good—sharp and clear, good detail, composed well, not fuzzy or out-of-focus—and in subject matter they should be of unusual interest; not common or trite. We have pictures, sent in for this contest, of bee yards; people holding combs of bees or honey; bee hives close up; general scenes of no more interest than the usual run.

Try for the unusual, vital, off-the-record stuff. We have pictures that are fine in subject matter but too small to use, or too poor photographically.

Now, with this detailed statement of what to send, try again and see what you can do. It should be a lot of fun.

An Opportunity For Honey Promotion

by H. J. Rahmlow

AS a beekeeper you will at once agree that honey, to remain popular with consumers, needs both advertising and promotion.

Advertising, according to the dictionary is to "announce publicly, especially by printed notice and radio broadcast, by emphasizing desirable qualities in order to arouse a desire to purchase."

To promote honey is to increase the interest and opinion of consumers in it. There are many ways of doing this and every beekeeper can help. Since there are so many beekeepers, if each one will do just a little, much can be accomplished. For example, there are over 14,000 beekeepers in Wisconsin—large and small. If each one promotes honey and sells a 10-lb. pail to 10 people it means 1,400,000 lbs. are put to use.

Late in August I glanced through one of our daily newspapers. On the women's page my eye caught the headlines, "Honey Flavors Coconut Chiffon Pie" with a recipe and large picture of an appetizing looking pie. That is promotion. The article was the work of the American Honey Institute. It increased the interest of consumers in honey. It placed honey on a high plane—in a class above cheaper sirups. We must remember that one of the factors which determines the national price of honey is the price of competing items.

Promotion At Fairs

I would like to tell you about a method of promotion which is being overlooked by many beekeepers—exhibits at county and state fairs. We have thought of such exhibits in the past as simply an opportunity to show extracted and comb honey, win a prize, and have our names published as winners. We must change our thinking and take advantage of a real opportunity to interest consumers in large numbers without cost to us.

Attendance at the good fairs is increasing. At the 1949 Wisconsin State Fair paid admissions ran to

three-fourths of a million. At least one-third of them passed through the Bee and Honey Building. How much would it cost to reach 250,000 people by paid advertising and as effectively as the exhibits shown in the pictures? Premiums can be given for the booth exhibit of honey, and the beekeepers, by paying a small concession fee, can sell honey from the counter in front.

There is a definite advantage for beekeepers in being allowed to sell honey from their booth. First it enables them to make modest wages so they can afford to remain at the exhibit. Second, by being in attendance they answer questions of all kinds and can really promote honey. Watching the visitors to the building we found they walked right by a "dead" exhibit, giving it only a glance, but there were always a number around booths in which there was "life" or action.

A Lost Opportunity

Consider the picture on next page (Fig. 5). It shows the honey display at a large Wisconsin county fair (attendance about 40,000). You will have a hard time finding the honey, but it is there. It was good honey, too; excellent quality comb honey and three extracting frames that might have won a prize almost anywhere. The glass show case had not been cleaned. On the left was the grain exhibit in sacks, on the right is the vegetable exhibit and in front a special barley exhibit. Will this exhibit increase the interest of the consumer in honey? Here was an opportunity to promote honey to from 15,000 to 25,000 consumers.

Don't Blame Fair Management

Is the fair management to blame for the poor exhibit? The answer is no. There is always a lack of room at fairs and if beekeepers are satisfied to bring in their honey and put it just anywhere—that may be the outcome! If, however, you really want to promote honey, the county fair offers a wonderful opportunity

to do so. The fair management is usually only too glad to cooperate, providing beekeepers will take the load of labor and expense off their shoulders.

At the State Fair

The Wisconsin State Fair has long been outstanding in cooperation with beekeepers in the promotion of honey and beekeeping. In front of the building is a honey bar at which honey ice cream, honey lemonade, honey ham sandwiches, etc. are sold. Now under the management of Mr. Walter Diehnelt this honey bar has tremendous sales. It offers opportunity to give a taste of food in which honey is used. While it brings in a profit for the Fair that is not its main value or purpose.

In the building are two types of exhibits. First, the quality goods section—premiums on extracted and comb honey displayed in an attractive way. Second, the booth or project exhibit with an attendant.

Why People Stop

A careful check on the action of visitors indicated they glanced at the nice display of honey but kept on walking—until they got to where there was some action. The first place of action is shown in Figure 1 where Mr. Charles Lang, of LaCrosse, presided over an observation hive with one frame of bees. Note the frame on the right has a sign, "Painted Queen, Find Her." Newspaper items aroused visitors' curiosity and there was always a crowd around this frame trying to find the painted queen. Note the method of allowing bees access to the out-of-doors from the observation hive—a glass tube with a rope suspended through it. The bees crawled up and down the rope and brought in nectar and pollen.

The American Honey Institute Exhibit

Second stop for visitors was a display by the American Honey Insti-
(Please turn to page 589)



Figure 1



Figure 2

"Live" Bee and Honey Exhibits at the Wisconsin State Fair

Figure 1. Mr. Charles Lang of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, answered many questions for visitors to the Wisconsin State Fair Bee and Honey Exhibit. Here he points out how the bees left the observation hive by crawling up the rope. Interested observer is Mrs. John Long, wife of Wisconsin's Chief Inspector.

Figure 2. An educational booth prepared by Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Kallas, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, shown here answering questions of a youthful visitor.

Figure 3. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Figge, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, prepared this attractive booth. Mrs. Figge was in constant attendance and answered questions.

Figure 4. The Howards of Milwaukee, Wisconsin have exhibited honey at the Wisconsin State Fair for many years. Their booth was always surrounded by Fair visitors.

Figure 5. A lost opportunity. Honey exhibit (?) at a county fair with an attendance of 40,000 people.



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Beekeepers Protest 50% Increase In Express Rates on Package Bees

by M. C. West

EFFECTIVE September 9, 1949, the express classification on package bees shipped to points in the United States was changed from Class 1 to Class 1½. This change in classification increases the express charges by 50%.

This is a serious blow to the beekeeping industry, already plagued with extremely high production costs and lower demand and prices for apriary products.

Although the request by the Railway Express Agency, Inc. was posted according to law by the Interstate Commerce Commission, very few, if any, beekeepers were aware of the proposed change.

A representative of the Railway Express Agency, Inc. stated at a recent meeting of the California Bee Breeders, Inc. that another increase is pending which will raise Class 1 rates by 10% and Class 1½ by 15%. If this increase is granted by the Interstate Commerce Commission, it will make a 65% increase in express charges on package bees shipped to points in the United States.

There has been no change in the procedure of packaging, handling, or crating of package bees by the producers and no change in the methods of handling by the Railway Express Agency, Inc. A representative of the Railway Express Agency, Inc. recently stated that the loss claims in California were very low the past season. In view of the above facts it is hard to see the justification in changing the classification of package bees.

When notified by a local express agent of the change, the writer forwarded the following letter in protest to the Interstate Commerce Commission:

October 10, 1949.

Wm. E. Lee, Chairman,
Interstate Commerce Commission,
12th St. and Constitution Ave. N. W.,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

It has just been called to my attention by an agent of the Railway Express Company that Package Bees

have been changed from Class 1 to Class 1½ thus increasing the rate 50%.

The industry in California was not notified of the pending change, and as far as I know, neither were the shippers in the Southern States given a chance to testify at any hearing concerning a change in classification. I will verify the above.

The increased burden comes at a time when the industry is fighting for survival. Our costs of production already are at the peak, while prices and demand for package bees have taken a tremendous drop.

The low price of honey with the high cost of production has caused a decrease in demand for packages last year. The prices are lower than last year. This increase in express rates will cause further decrease in honey bee colonies when they are needed for pollination. The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture has asked for increased numbers of bees for pollination of fifty important crops.

There has been no change in the method of packaging, crating, or handling of package bees which would warrant any change in classification of express rates.

The California Bee Breeders, Inc. are holding a meeting October 20th at the Apiary Building, University of California, Davis. We would appreciate it if you would send a representative to this meeting to discuss the problem.

Cordially yours,
M. C. West, Secretary-Treasurer
California Bee Breeders, Inc.,
Davis, California.

In reply, the following letter was received from the Interstate Commerce Commission, Bureau of Traffic:

October 18, 1949.

Mr. M. C. West, Sec'y-Treas.,
California Bee Breeders, Inc.,
Davis, California.

Dear Sir:

The Commissions Chairman has asked me to investigate the matter

discussed in your letter to him dated October 10, and write you in the premises.

You called attention to the fact that by a change recently made, the Railway Express Agency, Inc. had substantially increased its rates for the handling of bees. My investigation reveals that on July 25, 1949, there was duly filed with the Commission Supplement No. 32 to Official Express Classification No. 33—I. C. C. 4500 which was to become effective September 9, 1949. Therein the Express Agency made provision for the cancellation of a first-class rating on bees to be succeeded on September 9, by a Class 1½ rating. The supplement was received here and posted for public inspection on July 26. Thus the public had considerably more than the required thirty days' notice within which to file protests with the Commission against the taking effect of the proposed change. In the absence of protests from any affected party, the change became effective as scheduled.

This does not necessarily mean that the action which the Express Agency took is reasonable and lawful in all respects. Neither does it mean that parties who believe it to be unreasonable have forfeited their right to be heard. On the other hand, you or any other interested party has the right at any time to bring a complaint before the Commission, in conformity with its Rules of Practice alleging that the rates being paid are unreasonable or otherwise unlawful and seeking the relief to which you feel you are entitled. Such complaint will be served upon the Express Agency and in due time a hearing would be held for the accumulation of record upon which the Commission could base its findings and conclusions. Since the Commission does not have the power under the law to either suspend tariff matter after it becomes effective or to summarily require changes without formal hearings, this latter action is recommended to you as the only way, procedur-



The author's apiary, consisting of 35 Langstroth hives from which he extracts an average surplus of 55 pounds per hive—a light honey from field flowers.

South of the Border

by J. Eisenbach

FEW statistics exist on honey production and the number of hives in operation in Mexico. Everywhere over the country we find either any kind of old cases being used to hive bees or else the common style of hive which is four to six feet long, and about a foot high and wide, with loose openings on both sides. These hives are opened once a year when the honey combs are cut out and the honey taken. Only some 15 pounds or less can be obtained from such a hive.

However in some parts of Mexico, particularly in the states of Puebla, Mexico, Auguascalientes, Morelos and Jalisco, single apiaries with one hundred or more modern hives can be found. Some Italian bees are kept in these modern apiaries, al-

though most colonies consist of black bees.

Mexican honey is chiefly sold for export to Europe as the Mexican people consume very little of it in spite of low prices.

We do not need to winter our bees, as they fly the whole year around. In spring there is a small honeyflow from which the bees obtain reserves for the rainy season which follows, lasting from May to September. Sometimes feeding is required during this period. After this comes the great flow from October to December.

Honey is obtained from field flowers, mesquite and other trees. From the Isthmus comes a dark honey, probably from bananas, which is suitable only for industrial purposes.

In my apiary I have never had a

swarm from my black bees, but the small cases of the natives sometimes swarm. I work my bees in the morning, when it does not rain, using ground corn cobs in the smoker with good results. I have no disease and most of the province of Mexico is free of it. However, around Mexico City, reaching part of Morelos, Mexico on the other side of the mountains, foulbrood exists and is only expected to disappear when the old fashioned hives are no longer used. There is no government inspection, which would be nearly impossible with the old boxes.

Here in the high subtropics there are no ants, but in Orizaba, Veracruz (to the south) they are a plague and good apiaries need water surrounding them.

Valle de Bravo, Mexico.

ally, in which the matter can now be brought up for formal consideration by the Commission.

The invitation that the Commission have a representative at a meeting to be held in Davis, California on October 20, is appreciated, but in view of our reduced appropriation I regret to state that it will not be possible for us to send a representative to the West Coast to participate as an observer at this meeting.

Yours very truly,
C. G. Jensen, Director.

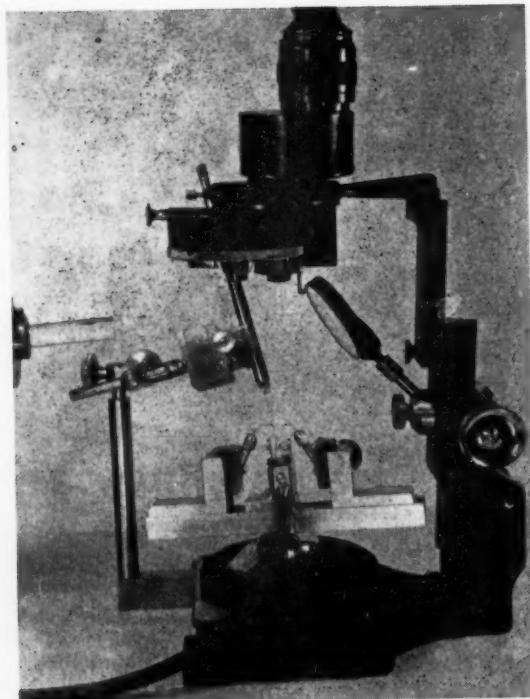
At the October meeting of the California Bee Breeders, Inc. the membership protested this increase in Express Charges and the writer, as Secretary-Treasurer was requested to contact as many interested parties as possible to unite in protesting this change in classification as well as in the general increase in rates.

All beekeepers and beekeeping associations should register protest with the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, asking that a hearing be held to show why pack-

age bees should be given Class 1 instead of the higher Class 1½.

Transportation costs of the bee-keeping industry are already too high. The added burden to the already swelled production costs and lowered demand and prices of apiary products are unfair to a profession doing more good for others through pollination than for themselves in the production of honey and beeswax. No one will fight our battles for us so let's unite and fight!

California.



(Figure 1) View of left side of queen and syringe manipulators in position for use. (Mackensen syringe).

(Figure 2) Details of queen and syringe manipulators, right side. (Mackensen syringe).

THE control of the mating of the queen bee by artificial insemination has been developed by various workers during the past 25 years to the point of practicability in breeding work and genetics studies (1, 2). As the technique of insemination was advanced, instruments to aid in the work were improved. These instruments have reached a high state of perfection and enable the skilled operator to inject the semen into the queen with comparatively little difficulty. The unskilled worker, however, will still find artificial insemination difficult, and it is likely that this condition will remain so because of the minute size of the queen's reproductive opening and of the valvefold within the vagina which must be pushed to one side as the syringe is inserted.

One of the instruments which has been developed and refined has already been described in the bee

journals (1). A new instrument based upon one designed and used in 1938 is described in this paper.

This instrument was constructed commercially in 1948* and consists of two parts: the queen manipulator and the syringe manipulator. The queen manipulator (figures 1 and 2) weighs about 3 pounds, is 6 inches long and 3 1/4 inches high and is thus of convenient size to fit on the stage of a dissecting microscope. It is constructed of brass with a chrome finish of all except the base which has a black finish. The queen holder is situated at the middle of the instrument and clamps the queen's thorax firmly, allowing the abdomen to extend above the holder. The anesthetic is directed from either side toward the spiracles. The opening hooks, one of which fits between the bases of the sting lancets and the other against the ventral wall of the sting chamber, are held by chucks fastened to pieces movable up or down and toward or away from the

queen by means of racks and pinions. The queen may be tilted to any desired angle by means of a ball and socket joint. The manipulator holding the queen can be removed from the stage of the microscope while the syringe is being filled, and then the queen can be brought into proper position for insertion of the syringe into the vagina by sliding the queen manipulator over the stage of the microscope. If desired, the queen-holding-tube used by Mackensen and Roberts can be used with this instrument. This manipulator permits the hands to be brought close to either side of the queen to lower the valvefold, or to otherwise assist in the operation.

The syringe manipulator (figures 1 and 2) is fastened by a bar and adjustable rods to the front part of the microscope stage. The syringe is held firmly by a clamp which allows ready removal of the syringe, and which will take any type syringe. The syringe can be smoothly raised

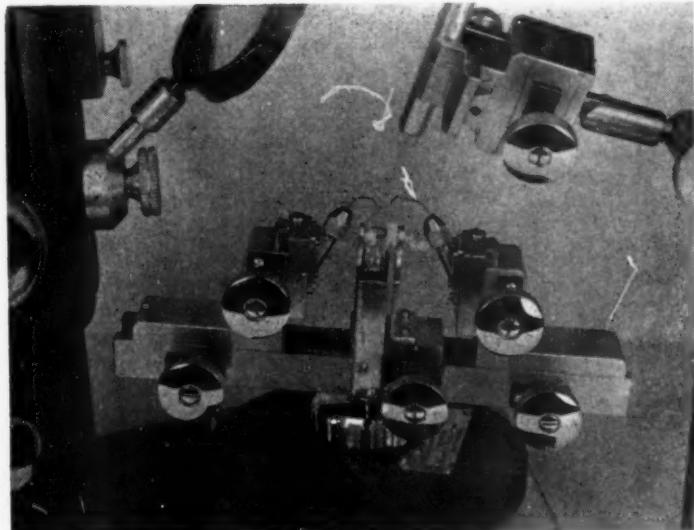
(1) Anonymous. 1948. Roberts and Mackensen Apparatus for artificial insemination of queenbees. *Amer. Bee Jour.* 87(9):425.

(2) Laidlaw, H. H. Jr. 1949. Development of precision instruments for artificial insemination of queenbees. *Jour. Econ. Ent.* 42(2):254-261.

* By the firm of Silge & Kuhne of San Francisco which specializes in the construction of precision instruments.

New Instruments For Artificial Insemination of Queen Bees

by Harry H. Laidlaw, Jr.
University of California



or lowered by a sliding piece with a rack and pinion adjustment. A moving distance of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch is provided.

With this new improved apparatus the writer employs a Zeiss microscope lamp as a source of light. The light is reflected into the sting chamber of the queen with a microscope mirror attached to the arm of the microscope. A cap fitted with a Lucite rod was devised by J. E. Eckert to fit over the lens of the lamp, and the Lucite reduces the heat to a minimum without serious loss of light.

This apparatus was used throughout the 1948 and 1949 seasons with complete satisfaction. The two manipulators are precision instruments and as such their cost together is about \$350.00. They are durable and are built to give many years of service.

In using these instruments the queen manipulator is set aside and the queen is anaesthetized with carbon dioxide while she is held in the hand or confined to a cage. She is then clamped by the thorax, head down, between the queen holding upright pieces of the queen manipulator with her ventral side toward the operator, and a small stream of CO₂ is allowed to flow over the spiracles. When this has been done the manipulator with the queen in position is brought to the stage of the dissecting microscope, and the sting chamber is opened with forceps held in the operator's left hand. The dorsal hook is brought over the queen and lowered into the sting chamber and is adjusted to fit beneath the base of the sting and pull it dorsally from over the vaginal orifice. The ventral hook is next brought into place and adjusted. The queen manipulator with the queen is now set aside while the syringe is filled with semen.

The syringe is prepared for use and is clamped between the jaws of the syringe manipulator. Eversion of the copulatory organ, which is accompanied by ejaculation of the seminal fluids, is brought about in a selected drone by moderate pressure applied to the drone's abdomen. The eversion usually stops before the semen has been released to the exterior of the organ. Further pressure on the drone's abdomen will cause the organ to continue eversion with the release of the semen and accompanying mucus. The drone, with the everted organ and adhering fluids, is brought to the tip of the syringe and the semen is taken up

into the syringe. If more than one drone is used this procedure is repeated until the desired amount of semen has been taken into the syringe.

After the syringe is filled it is raised so it will clear the queen, and the manipulator with the queen is again placed on the microscope stage with the ventral side of the queen toward the operator. The syringe is then lowered until the tip is within the sting chamber, and the queen manipulator is moved over the microscope stage so the point of the syringe is directly above the vaginal orifice or is slightly to the right and below it depending upon the angle of the syringe to the queen. With a flattened probe the valvefold is lifted from over the orifice of the median oviduct and is pushed ventrally within the vagina and held there while the point of the syringe is inserted into the vaginal opening. The valvefold lifter is then removed and the point of the syringe is pressed firmly against the vaginal opening. The semen is injected into the oviducts by slowly turning the syringe screw which activates the plunger and forces the semen out at the syringe tip. When the injection is finished the syringe may be raised to a position above the queen and

removed from the syringe manipulator.

Three fundamental factors are involved in the technique of insemination. One is the introduction of semen into the oviducts of the queen without injury to the queen. This can now be accomplished with relative ease with the instruments available. The second is the retention of the semen within the reproductive tract for a period sufficiently long to allow enough sperm to migrate to the spermatheca to effect a normal insemination. This problem has not yet been satisfactorily solved. The present procedure is to extend the time the sperm are massed at the orifice of the spermathecal duct by repeated injections of relatively large amounts of semen. The third factor concerns the physiology of the queen and drone during the mating period. This includes the judging of the maturity of the sperm, and the methods of handling which will not cause sperm injury, but which may even impart a temporary stimulation to sperm activity. Very little work has been done on this phase of the problem. Mackensen's discovery that carbon dioxide will stimulate the queen to begin oviposition is the most important contribution to this aspect of the problem so far.

Pollination Studies

"The Value of Bees to Agriculture—Abstracts on Pollination Studies of Agricultural Crops."

This is the title of mimeographed series No. 1, from the University of Arkansas College of Agriculture, Agricultural Experiment Station, Fayetteville, Arkansas, prepared by Victor C. Thompson. It contains 24 mimeographed pages with comments on the pollination of field crops, fruits, and vegetables and general information about pollination. It is a decided addition to our knowledge of the pollination question giving studies with and without bees and summaries of the work which has been done throughout the country in the use of bees in pollination of agricultural crops.

Those interested may secure copies of this bulletin by writing to the address given above.

University of Wyoming. The title is "A Rare Gregarine Parasite of the Adult Honey Bee."

Gregarines are protozoan parasites found in the digestive tracts of other insects, but less often in the honey bee. They have been reported from several European countries and Canada. In the United States they were found first in Minnesota, and later reported in Maryland and Wisconsin.

Apparently infection may be influenced by climate, and perhaps the honey bee may be infected from other insects.

New Washington Inspector

Mr. C. F. Turnipseed has been appointed state inspector in Washington. Address: Chief Inspector, Division of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Olympia, Washington. He is well qualified for the position as he has been in commercial beekeeping for a number of years. He is also a sincere, cooperative worker and will work to improve the industry in the state.

Gregarine Parasite

The March 2, 1949 issue of the *Journal of Economic Entomology* contains an article by J. D. Hitchcock of the Bureau of Entomology at the

Price Support For Honey

• • •

Price support for honey has become a certainty for the President has signed the Bill making it mandatory to support the price of honey from 60 to 90 per cent of parity. At this writing, decisions have not been made concerning the details of the program. The Federation is urging the Department of Agriculture to make such announcement as soon as possible. This announcement will not come until after a conference with a representative group from the beekeeping industry. Plans for this conference have not been announced.

The Anderson Bill is a permanent law for farm price support, but it will be permanent only to the extent that some other legislation does not replace or change it on the statutes of our Nation. We are informed that Senator Thomas, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, has made the statement that he will not permit any general farm legislation to come before his committee in 1950. This could mean that honey will receive price support for at least two years. On the other hand, we are told that the Brannan program will be political ammunition in the 1950 elections. If the Brannan program is adopted, and if—a very important if—our price support program is successful to the extent that the industry is benefited and the Government does not acquire too great a quantity of honey, we might assume that we would be granted price support under the Brannan program, although this would likely be at the discretion of the Secretary. But no one can know how long honey will be given price support.

What is the price support program going to be like?

Frankly, we do not know nor did officials in Washington know the week of October 24. The law specifies: The price of honey shall be supported through loans, purchases, or other operations at a level not in excess of 90 per centum nor less than 60 per centum of the parity price therefor.

We are informed that parity for honey as of October 15, 1949 was 16.8

cents a pound. The percentage level of price support will be decided by the Secretary of Agriculture and his decision will be final although certain provisions of the law apply. Most officials with whom we talked did not think we could hope for more than 60 per cent of parity or 10.08 cents a pound.

The law states further: Appropriate adjustments may be made in the support price for any commodity for differences in grade, type, staple, quality, location, and other factors. Such adjustments shall, so far as practicable, be made in such a manner that the average support price will equal the level of support determined as provided in this Act.

The price history for honey would indicate that certain differentials of this kind would be in line, due to freight rates, grades, and/or color of honey. If the Secretary establishes varying price levels due to such differentials, the average support price must equal the support level determined by the Act.

Further, it is not known whether the Secretary will elect to give price support to the 1949 carryover, as of January 1, 1950, or only to the 1950 crop. It is our information that this decision will be made relative to wool, mohair, tung nuts, and honey, as a group of commodities. Pressure is being used to induce the Secretary to give price support to the 1949 carryover, but until final details of the program are announced, no one can know what the decision will be.

The law states further: The Secretary, shall, insofar as practicable, announce the level of support in advance of the beginning of the marketing year or season (January 1 in the case of commodities not marketed on a marketing year or seasonal basis). The interpretation as applied to the honey industry has not been made.

What does price support mean to the honey industry?

First, price support means recognition for our industry like that given to other agricultural commodities. Such recognition should be reflected in increased interest on the part of

the Government and others in our problems of marketing research, pollination, organization, and others.

Second, price support brings to the honey industry for the first time a stabilization of our honey market. Producers will be in the position of no longer finding it necessary to sell their honey to opportunist buyers to provide means for operating their colonies or for their livelihood. Through purchase agreements or other means, they will be able to borrow from their bank sufficient capital to live or operate until such time as they can dispose of their honey at a reasonable figure. Stabilization should enable the packers and co-operatives to put money into development, advertising, and sales promotion without the fear of buyers obtaining distress lots of honey and underselling their markets. We may well see things happen to the honey industry in honey sales that we have never seen before.

Price support is just a prop for the industry. Price support will not solve our problems of organization and marketing. Only we can do that and we can do it only by working together cooperatively and adequately supporting this work. This is our golden opportunity to organize effectively a national program of advertising and marketing to the end that we will be able to solve our own problems. This is a must for the entire industry. If we fail to do this, we will find ourselves in a much worse position when our prop of price support is removed—and failing we will deserve such a position.

What the beekeeping industry must realize fully is that the success or failure of the price support program lies entirely in our own hands. It only is an aid to the industry. It is up to us to see that the program works.

◆◆◆

The demand for honey could not be filled if 2½% of the gross income from beekeeping were wisely expended each year for advertising.

Glenn O. Jones,
Sec'y-Treas. American
Beekeeping Federation

Annual Meeting of American Beekeeping Federation

Buena Vista Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi, January 17, 18, 19, 1950



Beautiful Buena Vista Hotel at Biloxi, Headquarters for Annual Federation Convention

PROGRAM

January 16

Meetings of Marketing Committee, Howard Foster, Chairman.

Organization and Program Committee, C. D. Floyd, Chairman Executive Committee.

January 17

9:00 A. M.—Meetings of Board of Directors, American Beekeeping Federation.

All permanent Committees.

Registration and sale of banquet tickets.

1:00 P. M.—Call to order.

Invocation.

Welcome address.

Report of the Year's Activities, Roy A. Grout, President, Hamilton, Ill.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Glenn O. Jones, Atlantic, Iowa.

Organization in Today's Economy, H. M. Bain, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C.

6:00 P. M.—Ladies Auxiliary Ban-

quet (Seafood Jamboree) Fun, food and fellowship will be combined with an interesting program under the direction of Mrs. Carl E. Killion, President of the Ladies Auxiliary. It's new. It's different. Make reservations before January 1 with Mrs. Killion at Paris, Illinois, or with Glenn O. Jones, Atlantic, Iowa. The feature speaker of the evening will be Mrs. Harriett M. Grace, Director of the American Honey Institute.

January 18

9:00 A. M.—Can Government Programs Replace Individual Initiative? S. R. Smith, Director, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Adm., U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

How to Improve the Market for Honey, R. B. Willson, Chairman, Honey Utilization Committee, New York, New York.

Fundamentals of Food Marketing, T. M. Patterson, Production and Marketing Adm., Jackson, Miss.

12:00 M—Lunch hour.

1:30 P. M.—The International Meeting in Amsterdam, Jas. I. Hambleton, Chief, Bee Culture Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

Resolutions.

Election of Officers.

6:00 P. M.—Annual Banquet—Harold J. Clay, Toastmaster, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Adm., Washington.

January 19

9:00 A. M.—Pollination as a Part of Beekeeping, S. W. Edgecombe, Chairman, Honey and Pollen Plants Committee, and Head, Department of Horticulture, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.

Grover F. Brown, Chief Agronomist, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D. C.

Four or more beekeepers who have had pollination work in 1949.

12:00—Adjournment.

2:00 P. M.—1950 Board of Directors.

Executive Committee.

Beekeepers' Encyclopedia

The British Isles brings us yet another bee book, this time written by A. S. C. Dean, Head of the Bee Department of the North of Scotland College of Agriculture. It is entitled "The Beekeepers' Encyclopedia" and is published by A. G. Elliott of Glade House, The Glade, Kingswood, Surrey, England.

The book is well written, authoritative, and covers general beekeeping practices. A good text book of moderate proportions, it is a series of observations on bees, from behavior to brood diseases and queen rearing.

Insulation and An Auxiliary Air Vent

by William H. Wolford

THE value of upper entrances in outdoor wintering has been emphasized for years. One criticism of upper entrance systems when insulation is used, however, is the difficulty of adapting the upper entrance construction to the insulation methods at reasonable cost. The long hive top channel, packed to the front of the hive is complex; mere cleating and puncturing of the waterproof paper across upper entrance openings (with front insulation omitted or half filled) is simple.

In northern beekeeping regions the climate justifies insulation in winter. There are some advantages of auxiliary top entrances especially when winter colonies are not inspected. The main purpose in using upper entrances is to provide an air vent to the outdoors which is stormproof and iceproof.

The old tar paper and straw case with a single entrance (a standard recommendation for years before the upper entrance became common) still can be used to advantage in regions such as this. This waterproof case, with straw, shavings, or leaves as insulation, will benefit average colonies and winter mediocre ones effectively in early clover localities. When good colony conditions exist, combined with good case construction, heavily populated double-story hives can be had by fruit blossom time.

Experience with this type of single entrance case warrants two conclusions: 1. The single entrance case necessitates occasional winter inspection to make sure that the entrance to

the hive has not become blocked by snow and ice. If the hive faces the sunlight and is protected from wind the entrance usually will be kept free, but may become blocked in severe weather. Inspection, however, may be difficult due to impassable roads or may be impractical in winter in some locations. Such inconvenience has stimulated the winter use of dual entrance systems.

2. The work of installing winter packing and upper entrances, has encouraged simplified methods until colonies in bare single-walled hives with only upper entrances or top ventilation added are being launched into rugged winters.

This article foregoes decisions and admits the widespread use of many different methods of wintering. Good colony condition being a prerequisite to good wintering, the decision to pack and the type of case used depends largely on the locality, winter inspections, and the objectives of management.

Any change from the conventional tar paper, plus insulation, plus upper entrance method, usually retains the paper and rejects either the upper entrance or the insulation. Most beekeepers if they do pack, must pack quickly. When the decision to pack is made, and the single entrance type of packing case is chosen, there can be included at each bottom board entrance **an auxiliary stormproof air vent** which insures the same advantage as an upper entrance.

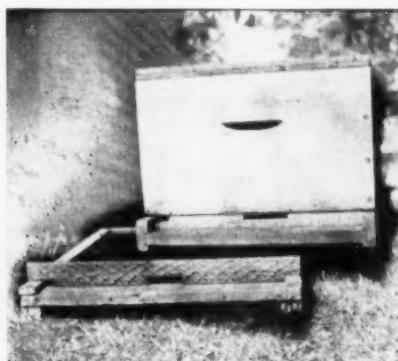
The auxiliary air vent is a small secondary opening at one end of the

hive entrance block. This notch is made into the same edge of the block as the main entrance (Figs. 1 and 2). Dimensions of the notch are the usual mouseproof height by about 1 inch long. Colonies packed in individual cases can have entrance blocks inserted with an auxiliary notch at the sunward end; twin-colony packs can have the auxiliary notches at opposite corners. Without adding or altering any additional hive parts, each hive supplied with the auxiliary notch is ready for packing. The bottom board should slope slightly forward for drainage.

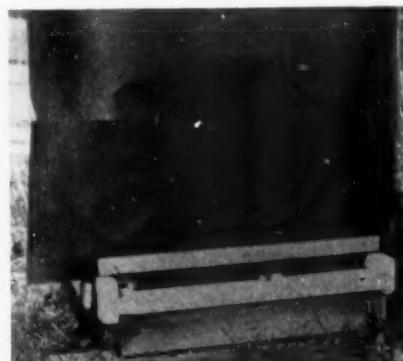
A stormproof ear to the auxiliary air vent requires only about a minute's time during actual packing operations. First cut a piece of asphalt paper 8 by 10 inches and place it on the ground conveniently near the auxiliary air vent. Then proceed with packing operations as usual. If the standing paper extends over the auxiliary air vent, an opening should be cut accordingly. Packing systems which use loose insulation commonly employ a lathlike strip to hold the bottom edge of the paper against the hive front. When this strip is on, leave the end above the auxiliary air vent loose. Beneath this loose end slide in from above a long edge of the 8 by 10 ear piece. Center this edge of the ear piece above the vent (Fig. 3) and seat the end nail which cleats both papers down tightly. The ear piece then is flopped forward and downward, its projecting end folded snugly around the hive corner and fastened



Auxiliary air-vent near right end of straight-across slat, with reduced center entrance.



Air vent in slip-under block; and in left corner of different type slat.



An 8" x 10" ear-piece is centered above the auxiliary air vent.

beneath the end of the next lath strip. In this form (Fig. 4) completion of the ear may be postponed until all packing is done.

To complete the ear, shape the front of the ear piece slopingly forward to within an inch of the ground, hollow up the back of the ear across the alighting board so that an air channel results, and fasten the paper tightly along the inner edge to the bottom board to exclude rain, snow, and wind. A thin wire nail through a short wood strip can be used for this purpose (Fig. 5).

The completed pack is shown in Fig. 6. This example of a loose insulation case was selected to show the springtime result of some economies in packing costs combined with simplified case construction. The work was carefully done, a very light weight paper was used, girth reinforcement eliminated, binding cord footage reduced 30%, and time in applying cord saved.

The weight of winter snow and the warmth of the springtime sun are factors which influence the sagging of loose insulation types of cases. Good practices in case construction forestall the principal danger which is excessive front sagging obstructing the bottom board entrances. Upper entrance methods insure against this in their own way, and an upper entrance cleat will prevent front sagging—if you're willing to install upper entrances and loose insulation around them. But when the simpler case with no upper entrance is used, whether or not winter inspections are planned, most weather risks can be eliminated by quick inclusion at each colony's entrance block of an auxiliary air vent and a winterproof ear.

New York.



Ear piece pulled down and end folded around hive corner and cleated under side cleat.

Proficiency Badge for Girl Scouts In Beekeeping



Girl Scouts interested in bees may now earn proficiency badges for activity in this field. To earn this badge the beekeeper Girl Scout has to do ten of a possible seventeen activities. Two, however, are compulsory. They are: to know the constituents of a colony of bees and how it lives; and to use some of the information or the products raised for a troop, school, church or synagogue or other community service.

The other requirements are: to know how nectar is gathered, stored, and how the honeycomb is built; know what part the queen, drones, and workers play in the life of the colony; be able to recognize and describe each of the following: queen, drone, worker, egg, larva, pupa, honey, wax, pollen, broodnest, comb, queen cells, beeglue; assist in hiving a swarm, examining a colony, removing the comb, finding the queens, putting foundations in sections, filling and removing supers, and preparing honey in comb and strained for market. Be able to identify different parts of a hive; know how to fix the hives for the winter months; know which flowers afford the best food for bees, and how honey varies in color and flavor according to the flowers. Know effect, if any, of insect sprays on bees.

Know how to keep from being stung by a bee and what to do for a bee sting; know at least three recipes in which honey may be used

in place of sugar; Read Maurice Maeterlinck's *Children's Life of the Bee* or some book or pamphlet on the bee, and tell your troop about; know something about the habits of wild bees and how you go about finding a colony of them; know the value of bees wherever plants are grown for food or pleasure; know how to introduce a new queen into a hive; know what gear is necessary in bee-keeping; know the diseases of bees and some of the things that destroy colonies of bees; visit and, if possible, take part in your state or county fair.

Florida Regulations

Copies of the Bee Disease Law of Florida may be obtained by writing to the State Plant Board of Gainesville. Our readers will recall that the regulations against moving bees into Florida have been somewhat modified.

Permits for such moves must be made to the State Plant Board, however, and such applications must be accompanied by certificates of inspection from the authorized authorities of the state from which the bees are to be moved.

Much discretion is left to the State Plant Commissioner and his authorized deputies as to permits, fines, etc.



Inner edge fastened to bottom board with light strip.



Finished two-colony case with the ears at either side.

To Develop the Use of Honey

The good offices of the Honey Utilization Committee, American Bee-keeping Federation, were invoked to bring together representatives of some of the largest commercial bakeries, members of the Committee, and U. S. Department of Agriculture employees concerned with carrying out a new Research and Marketing Act project. This project has the objective of developing the use of honey in bakery products on the basis of findings following tests conducted under contract in a practical baking test laboratory.

Robert Willson of R. B. Willson Inc., New York City, Chairman of the Utilization Committee was host to the conference, which was held September 8 at the Cornell Club of New York. Besides Bob Willson there were present Philip Talbott, Specialist in bakery practice, Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, Washington, D. C.; Dr. W. H. Cathcart, Director National Bakery Division, The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co.; Dr. S. M. Jackson, Sunshine Biscuits, Inc.; Raymond T. Bohn, Director, General Baking Co.; G. C. Robinson, Continental Baking Co.; Oscar Scovolt, Quality Bakers of America; Claude Davis and P. L. Warren of the National Biscuit Co.; and Marshal J. Goss, Dr. Jonathan W. White, Jr., and George P. Walton of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chem-

istry, USDA. Charles A. Glabau, Technical Director, Bakers Weekly, could not attend because of absence from the city. White and Walton are on the staff of the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, Wyndmoor, Pa., which will be responsible for direct supervision of the work under the project, and Dr. White also is a member of the Honey Utilization Committee.

The conference proved highly valuable in bringing together constructively, the divergent views (regarding the place of honey in commercial baking) between the group from the large bakeries and those interested in extending the utilization of honey.

It was apparent that the large concerns, and doubtless many small bakeries, have much less interest in the development of new formulas for making bakery products of superior quality with honey as sweetener, than they have in authoritative answers to such questions as:

What are the limits of permissible variation in the moisture content; acidity; flavor; color; and ratio of the levulose to dextrose (or levulose content) of honey, within which limits the honey will not adversely affect the baked goods in which it is used, or, in the case of the levulose content will definitely improve the product

in appearance and moisture retention?

What specifications are essential to characterize "standardized" honey for the bakery trade—so that a baker can be sure of getting honey satisfactory for his purpose time after time?

What specifically are the advantages in using honey, in comparison with an equal amount of cheaper sugar in the form of invert sugar or sucrose, in making breads or even sweet baked goods?

These are points of practical importance to bakers, especially to the large, mass-producing baking companies; and work on their elucidation will no doubt be included in the project.

However, it was felt that some provision should be made for work to develop formulas—more particularly for sweet products—of superior quality and in which honey would supply the bulk of the sugar. Items such as honey cakes, fruit cakes, milk and honey breads, fillings, toppings, and honey base cake should offer opportunities for improvements through increased use of honey.

It promises well for the project that such representative bakery technologists have consented to review and advise, as individuals, on the work to be performed under the project.

British Costs and British Honey Prices

Figures appearing in a recent issue of the American Bee Journal of British honey prices are for the most part correct, though the prices are abating from the earlier high point.

However, one should take into consideration the cost of producing supplies in labor, equipment, and the relatively shorter honey crops.

Average honey crop for the County of Essex for the past seven years is a little less than 30 pounds to the colony.

A good hive of bees will cost you \$35.00; foundation \$1.12 a pound; frames 15 cents each, sections 4½ cents each, and one pound jars a little more than 5 cents each.

If you get a package of bees from Holland the price is \$12.60 and home reared queens are \$2.00 each. These

prices were even higher before the devaluation of the pound sterling.

Now, we have difficulty in keeping up on our subscriptions to foreign bee journals and the purchase of out of the country bee books.

R. Woods, England.

Alfalfa Blossom Tripping

Marion W. Pederson, Assistant Agronomist of U.S.D.A. and Frank E. Todd, Apiculturist of the Bee Culture Lab. U.S.D.A. report in the June Agronomy Journal on the "Selection and Tripping in Alfalfa Clones by Nectar Collecting Bees," based on work they have done co-operatively with the Utah Experiment Station.

Under field conditions where bees enter through the side openings of the alfalfa flower, tripping is yet questionable in importance. But in

plants exposed in the apiary where bees inserted their proboscis through the "throat" of the flower to collect nectar, they tripped approximately 77% of the flowers visited. Selection of varieties of alfalfa which are especially attractive to bees through the "throat" of the flower may be a means of increasing "tripping." Variable weather conditions also have a bearing.

Honey Crop In the British Isles

Reports in recent issues of the British Bee Press show that honey crops will be good. In Britain, one reporter expects to get at least 140 sections plus a shallow super, in addition to surplus from later flows. Prices are lower due to the crop and to importations, yet are considerably above our average.



Fig. 1 (Left) Statue hive from a Polish Museum.

Fig. 2 (Below) Reproduction of a woodcut in the British Museum.



Bad King Wenceslaus

—A
Beekeeping
Puzzle

Good King Wenceslaus, of the Christmas Carol, was a King of Bohemia (Czecho-Slovakia) who died in the year 935. Bad King Wenceslaus, the fourth of the name, became king of Bohemia in 1378. He is connected with beekeeping because in 1393 he put to death a Canon of Prague, who had refused to reveal the confessions of his wife Sophia. The martyred Canon was made a Saint, under the title of St. John of Nepomuk, or Pomuk, his birthplace, which is now Pilsen and famous for its breweries.

For some reason or other, figures of St. John of Nepomuk were frequently made into the statue hives which were popular in Germany during the eighteenth century. These were wooden images, life size or bigger, into which a box hive was inserted downward between the shoulders. They were manipulated from the back and the flight hole was in front, usually in the breast. Before

the war a very fine series of these, dating from the eighteenth century and representing various classes of people including a coach driver, were to be seen in the beekeeping museum at Weimar. Figure 1 shows three from a Polish museum.

Before the war, Professor Armbruster traced these statue hives back to rough beginnings at the end of the seventeenth century but it has never been explained why, if these hives originated at that time, St. John of Nepomuk was selected as a favorite person to be represented.

Figure 2 is a reproduction of one of the woodcuts in the British Museum copy of the second edition of Nickel Jacob's work, published in 1580. These woodcuts seem to be the same as in the first edition of 1568 and, as far as I can judge, are intended to show all the types of hives in use

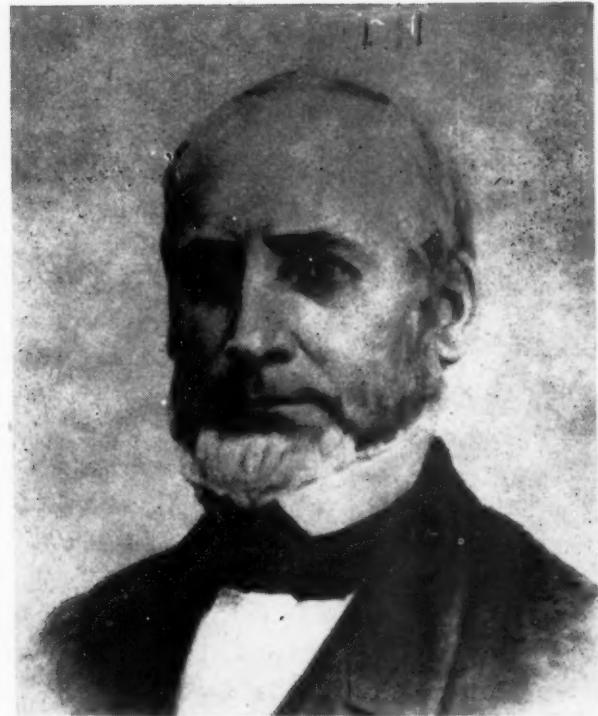
at that time at Gorlitz, in Silesia, where Nickel Jacob lived. At the base of the woodcut a shield will be noticed which bears the author's initials N. J. and is flanked by two small figures. To me, the only explanation of their presence is that they were intended to represent statue hives. There is, admittedly, no sign of boxes at the rear of the shoulders but the illustrations are very rough and too much should not be expected from the engravers. For Caspar Hofler's edition of 1614 the plates were redrawn and in this one the shield, monogram, and figures were omitted.

It is, however, necessary to remember that Nickel Jacob made no mention of statue hives in his book. Perhaps later on evidence may be discovered which will decide the question—H. M. Fraser.

Moses Quinby

Part II—Later Life

by Dr. E. F. Phillips



A year after his return from the journey to the then far West, Moses married Martha Norbury, a neighbor girl, and they set up housekeeping in the Quinby homestead. Here Moses increased his holdings of bees, developed apiaries all about the countryside and became the largest beekeeper in a region in which almost every farmer then had some bees. The area declined in importance for bees, because of a serious regression of the soil, so in 1853, Moses and Martha with their two children, Elizabeth and John, migrated to Montgomery County, to a vastly better beekeeping region. Here Moses stayed until he died in 1875, survived many years by Martha who did not die until over ninety years of age.

Enough for a hasty sketch of the life and work of Moses Quinby, but at this point the fun began. Going to Greene County to hunt out local details, it was possible to identify the location of his saw and turning mill, of his house, long since burned down, of the childhood home of Martha Norbury and the boundaries of the Forestville Commonwealth. But the best find of all was the building called the South House of the Commonwealth. After digging into records for a few days, the accuracy of the whole story seemed to rest on locating the South House. Maps revealed nothing and inquiries from supposedly well-informed local people brought the information that

no building existed or had ever existed at the place that seemed the right location for the South House. But when I went to the spot and began searching through a dense second-growth woods, there stood the house, unmistakably the right one, from its age, its appearance, its architecture and from all the records later detected. Not only was the house standing but it was actually occupied, not by a native but by summer people from Long Island who had bought it as a camping spot and hunting lodge. I should express my thanks to Mrs. Sellers for her help, as I am sure she would express her thanks to me if she had the opportunity, for putting her on the track of the history of the old house that she had insisted on buying.

Before leaving the Swill Street area, it seems proper to mention that when first cleared this was apparently a thrifty farming area, but a hard pan formed at the base of the plow, the region ran down, and today in at least a square mile including the former Quinby and Commonwealth properties, there is no standing house and no agriculture except the cutting of hay in seasons of adequate and timely rainfall. Land that sold at \$75 an acre a century ago is rather worthless now. To see the stone fences piled up by the earlier settlers and the present worthlessness of the soil, one is not encouraged to spend time on the land. The real lesson of course is that soil is a vital

thing in agriculture, and without good soil, much labor and sweat may be wasted.

The next trip in a search for Quinby material was to Montgomery County. Here I was helped by an old map in which one of the black dots was marked "M. Quinby." The difficulty was, however, that a beekeeper who was supposed to know had told me that Quinby had lived in another part of the County. It took only a few hours with the county land records to show that the map was right, so out I went to the spot. Here luck was with me, or I must live right, for almost at once I met a man who was marvelously versed in local history and who knew beyond a doubt that Quinby had lived at the base of the hill below his home. When I asked how he knew, he told me that he and his brother as young boys moved into the same house shortly after Quinby's death. The house is gone and another house now stands on the same foundations, but my informant knew the old house so well that he could draw me a floor plan, with all the minutia of the water supply, the early refrigeration and all the other details. A chance find in the recorded deed caused me to ask about the water supply, since it was specified that half the water from the spring in the orchard was to go to the residence of Christian Klock next door. Klock was the former owner of the property, and the spring was so abundant and so

valuable that he reserved half for himself when the property was sold. Later Quinby bargained away half of his share of the water to the Nellis family on the other side, in return for their removal of a barn which shut off his view of the valley.

My informant, who is a Nellis himself, took me over the property, showed me the location of the apiary, of the honey house, of the terraced vineyards and the orchard, and especially the ancient cemetery on the property, use of which was also restricted. Here the first church of the area had been built and in the church yard were buried many of the earliest settlers and some of their Indian friends. The church building is gone, but the congregation is maintained in a new structure in the town nearby.

After getting far more details about the Quinby days at St. Johns-ville than there is time to relate, by chance I unearthed another line of interest. Right on the property, later owned by Moses Quinby, was fought an important but small battle of the Revolution, the battle of Klock's Fields. On one of the invasions from Canada of troops under the military leadership of Sir William Johnson and the Indian Joseph Brant, the army entered the Mohawk Valley from the south down Schoharie Creek. They then turned westward, and meanwhile word of the invasion had reached Troy from which point Continental troops were sent to repel the invasion. Col. Van Rensselaer and his troops almost caught up with them near Fonda, but then for some mysterious reason slowed down their progress. That evening just as darkness was coming on, outpost scouts on the hill spotted the Indians under Brant in a recess in the hill where they were in ambush to await the Continental troops. There not being time to send word to the troops advancing up the valley road, they fired on the Indians and thus gave the needed warning. Now alerted, the Continental troops and the scouts from up on the hill attacked together and drove the Indians out of their hiding place. But by now it was too dark to fight, so the Continental troops withdrew to camp for the night back down the valley a few miles. On their return the next morning, the enemy had fled and the invasion was at an end. Almost every bit of the fighting of that small but important battle was on the property that Quinby later owned. Maybe he knew about this, but if so

he was not interested, for he was a Quaker and was opposed to war.

If one wishes to go farther back in history, there is still a better tale on the Quinby property. Before the last glacier a side valley opened into the Mohawk Valley just where the later Quinby homestead was situated. A morainal dump shut off this valley and formed a shelf on which the church and churchyard were located. But the stream thus cut off went underground, to seek the surface in the grand spring in the orchard. This was the abundant source of the water supply for the three neighboring houses, and it furnished water for two ponds that Quinby built, one as a source of water power for his turning mill and the upper one as a fish pond. The water was piped into the house, and summer and winter a considerable stream flowed into a water trough in the kitchen. One end of this trough was enclosed in a cupboard, and the temperature of the water all year was low enough so that milk and butter could be kept in good condition by immersion in the trough. All this the Quinby family owed to the fact that thirty thousand years or so before their appearance in the Mohawk Valley, Nature had built them a spring. In the days of Moses Quinby the glaciation of the state was just beginning to be understood, and he probably never heard of anything of the sort. If he thought about it at all he probably thought the whole area had once been created just about as it was then. The record of these events is not recorded in the Court House at Fonda, but it is written in the face of earth, for all to read who understand the language.

So far, what has been said tells something of where Moses Quinby lived, but still it does not reveal what sort of man he was. Such material comes from other sources. He was a great chess player, and night after night at St. Johns-ville he went to the toll house in front of neighbor Nellis' home where he and his cronies played their favorite game. He was something of a musician, for in one letter his wife Martha says that while she writes she can scarcely think, for Moses and a friend are in the next room, playing their banjos and singing Old Dan Tucker. But another letter gives us more about his musical abilities, for again his wife records that it is a beautiful Sabbath evening, the sun is just setting and everything is calm and peaceful. Moses is in the next room and the door is shut.

She can just hear him, for he is playing his flute.

He was a devout man and strict in his adherence to his faith. It was his conviction that if God permitted one to make a discovery or an invention, it was a duty to reveal everything to others and to make its use entirely free, in recompense for the ability to make the discovery. He detested patents and ardently fought the patent hive vendors of that day. When he invented the bee smoker and the capping knife, he did not patent them but revealed all details in his writings.

None of his descendants remain. His daughter Elizabeth married Lyman C. Root, also a noted bee-keeper, and they had two daughters, neither of whom married. Son John married before studying theology and after graduation he became pastor of a church in Massachusetts which he served well over thirty years, his only pastorate. John died without children, and so the Quinby race is run.

Moses Quinby was a strict man, and a solid citizen. He had his human side and was unquestionably a fine neighbor but he was rather straightlaced and perhaps not too much fun. But for entire reliability he would be hard to beat. Those who studied beekeeping under him without exception became his devoted admirers and unquestioning disciples. Those who profited by his discoveries and his writings honor him. He was benefactor to all present day beekeepers and it is a privilege in some degree to try to paint a picture of a good man to whom hundreds and thousands of fine people are indebted.

Maybe no such tale as this should close without a moral, and there is one to this story. It is, that if you have lived in an area, there is a record about you which you cannot hide. Records of real estate transactions, of wills and witnesses to wills, and even an occasional appointment of a guardian may tell much to later searchers after information. So if there is a shady spot on one's record, he should try to keep it from showing up in a court record, unless he wants some future amateur historian to spot the story. Moses Quinby had nothing to hide, and probably he would have been utterly amazed if he had been told that anybody would ever want to get information about him. He was that sort of modest man.

Previews of Coming Events

West Kootenay Elects

Miss Ruby Bate has been elected as president of the West Kootenay Division of the B. C. Honey Producers' Association. H. H. Cadden has been elected secretary-treasurer.

W. H. Turnbull, Provincial Apirast, Vancouver, B. C., accompanied by W. E. Hoadley, Salmon Arm, B. C., V. E. Thorgeirson, Vancouver, and F. Bettschen, Vernon, inspectors for Mr. Turnbull's department, recently visited the Kootenay Country and spoke at the meeting of the West Kootenay Division.

B. B. Clark, retiring president, stated the organization had been formed in the Nelson area in 1914 and had begun with 450 hives.

Colorado—Denver—December 12-13

The annual meeting of the Colorado Beekeepers Association will be held at the Auditorium Hotel in Denver on December 12 and 13.

J. Kyle McClaugherty, Sec'y.

Westchester County, N. Y., New Rochelle, December 18

The Westchester County Beekeepers' Association will hold a joint Christmas party and meeting at 2:30 P. M. on Sunday, December 18, 1949, at the Odd Fellows Hall, 20 Lockwood Avenue, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Following a short business meeting, entertainment will consist of movies and distribution of gifts by Santa Claus. Members and guests are invited to bring along the children. Refreshments will be served, and visitors are always welcome to attend.

B. F. Miller, Publicity.

Georgia—Beekeepers and Farm Bureau Cooperate

On November 7, 8 and 9, a committee of the Georgia Beekeepers' Association met with the members of the Georgia Farm Bureau at their annual convention meeting in Atlanta. The committee composed of Mr. Robert Y. Dewar, Valdosta; Mr. C. J. Hudson, Jr., Atlanta; and Mr. Harvey F. York, Jr., Jesup, had as their purpose to make arrangements for cooperation and development of interest of common problems of beekeeping and farming.

The Georgia beekeepers meeting with the Board of Directors of the Georgia Farm Bureau offered the following recommendation to the board for approval: "Whereas the beekeeping industry in Georgia is definitely a farm commodity group, we urge the development of a special Commodity Committee in the Farm Bureau Federation to serve with a committee appointed by the Georgia Beekeepers' Association to act upon matters pertaining to the interests of this phase of farming." This recommendation was passed unanimously after favorable talks by Mr. H. L. Wingate, president of the Georgia organization, Mr. A. L. Holland, member of the board of directors, and Mr. H. Young Tillman, vice-president.

The Beekeeping Commodity Committee in a meeting with the Resolutions Committee reported in the following resolutions for publication:

1. That the Beekeeping Commodity Committee go on record as favoring the inclusion of honey in the overall price support of at least 90% of parity.
2. That the committee advocate a closer cooperation and understanding between beekeeping and other farm practices that will result in a wider expansion of beekeeping in this state, and the protection of beekeeping interests.
3. That steps be taken to acquaint livestock farmers of their great dependence upon bees for adequate pollination of crops, particularly legumes.

Harvey F. York, Jr., Sec'y-Treas.

Providence, R. I.—Farm and Home Congress, March 7-10, 1950

The 1950 Farm and Home Congress will be held in the Cranston Street Armory in Providence on March 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, and will feature luncheon, afternoon and dinner meetings and conferences; demonstrations; contests for craftsmanship in cooking, needlework and woodworking; and commercial and organizational exhibits. Special speaking and discussion programs are being arranged for each farm organization.

The main exhibit hall of the 1950 Congress will include the educational displays of State and Federal agencies, and farm organizations; and promotional exhibitions by commercial firms appealing to farmers and homemakers. New movies of important developments in agriculture and conservation will be shown in especially constructed corner booths. Outstanding examples of prize farm animals and birds will be displayed also in the main exhibit hall.

The Farm and Home Congress is sponsored by the Rhode Island Agricultural Conference of farmers' organizations, Rhode Island State College, and the Rhode Island Department of Agriculture and Conservation. It is open to both farm families and the general public without admission charge.

William H. Cotter, Jr., Manager.

Container Levy for Canadian Advertising

R. M. Pugh reports for the Beekeeping Council of Canada that six of the major container companies offering cans and jars for honey have agreed to add to their price the equivalent of 1/5 cent per pound on all containers of eight pounds or less honey content, and 1/10 cent per pound on containers over 30 pounds. This means approximately five cents on a case of 24 one-pound containers, six cents on a case of 6 five-pound containers, and three cents on each 30-pound can. Local and provincial associations passed resolutions to this effect. These were turned over to the Beekeeping Council which in turn successfully appealed to the container people.

It is estimated that the funds raised will approximate \$20,000 during the course of the 1949-1950 season. This action, along with the siphoning off by the government of some five million pounds of the large 1948 crop, and a reduced crop this year due to the season and to fewer bees, should have a salutary effect on Canadian honey markets.



Elsie J. Harvey

The Cover Picture

Co-Discoverer of Acarine Disease

by Dr. J. N. Tennent

IN one of Edinburgh's beautiful suburbs there lives a lady to whom every beekeeper owes a debt of gratitude. She is Miss Elsie J. Harvey and her claim to distinction lies in the contribution she made to the discovery of the cause of Acarine disease of bees. Her name will always be associated with those of John Rennie, D.Sc., and P. Bruce White, B.Sc., in their outstanding research in the elucidation of the nature of this scourge.

Miss Harvey was born in India, but she came to live in Edinburgh at a very early age. She showed an early interest in botanical studies, gaining the herbarium prize at the College. A bursary enabled her to pass on to the College of Domestic Science at Atholl Crescent and take the course of training there. She did not pursue this career, however, but reverted to her botanical studies which she pursued at Edinburgh University, ultimately becoming Demonstrator in Botany. Zoology and embryology also claimed her attention and she took classes in these subjects.

When grants became available at Aberdeen for research into the cause of Isle of Wight Disease, Miss Harvey was appointed Research Assistant to Dr. Rennie. She took up this appointment in 1914 and remained in Aberdeen for at least six years.

When her appointment at Aberdeen ended, she moved to Manchester where for three years she was employed by a commercial concern. Then she returned to Edinburgh and for thirteen years was Demonstrator in Natural History at the Royal Scottish Museum of Natural History and also at Pittencrieff Museum, Dunfermline. This included lecturing to school children and to the general public on the specimens in the museum. With the outbreak of World War II these museums were closed and since then Miss Harvey has turned her attention to her first love, gardening. For a short time she was on the staff of the Botanic Gardens, but private gardening has been her main interest. Her knowledge and skill have made her much in demand for advice and assistance in the layout of rock gardens and

gardens of other kinds. She has maintained also her interest in bees.

To appreciate the significance of Miss Harvey's work at Aberdeen one must know something of the scourge which afflicted beekeeping in the British Isles in the early years of this century.

In 1904, signs of a new disease were first reported in the Isle of Wight. The next year most apiaries in the island had one or more stocks affected and the year after few were unaffected. In 1909 the disease was found in Hampshire and Sussex. After that it spread like an epidemic through Great Britain. These were the black years of British beekeeping; hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of bees and equipment were lost and fruit growers must have lost even more because of the lack of bees to pollinate the flowers.

Trained scientists were sent to the Isle of Wight to investigate. They conferred with the beekeepers and searched for the cause. In 1909 the opinion was expressed that the disease was due to bacteria, *Bacillus pestiformis apis*, to be found in the chyle stomach of diseased bees. In 1912 *Nosema apis*, a protozoon, also in the alimentary canal, was held to be the cause, and the disease was now named microsporidiosis. This view did not meet with universal approval and was ultimately challenged by Mr. John Anderson, of Stornoway, and later of Aberdeen. In 1916 he and Dr. Rennie definitely established that *Nosema* and Isle of Wight were distinct diseases.

It was obvious that further research was necessary. Mr. A. H. E. Wood, of Glassel, generously offered 500 guineas a year for three years for research purposes on condition that the Government did likewise. Thanks to this fund, Dr. Rennie and his associates were able to do that work which resulted in the discovery of the mite.

Miss Harvey's share in the work is best described in Dr. Rennie's own words. "The parasite was first observed by one of us (E. H.) in December, 1919, when a single example was found in a portion of trachea present in a preparation, permanently preserved, of the thoracic glands.

It was significant of the fuller knowledge of the disease, soon to be attained, that the bee in which it occurred was 'healthy' in the sense that it belonged to a colony which had no previous history of disease and was regarded as free from such. In the following May, Mr. White made the further and independent discovery that mites in all stages of development occurred in certain of the major thoracic tracheae of 'crawling' bees. In reporting this discovery he stated that he had found this condition in at least 150 sick bees, representative of several diseased stocks and also that he had failed to find mites in 95% of apparently healthy bees. On this occasion he expressed the view that the parasites seen by him bore a definite etiological relationship to the disease. That this discovery was one of great significance was obvious and the senior author immediately proceeded to its fuller verification."

Miss Harvey was not only closely identified with the whole of the research work of this period at Aberdeen but was the first to see the mite in mounted specimen.

Dr. Rennie further points out that when more bees were examined, the percentage of apparently healthy bees with mites rose to 36. The belief that the disease originated in the Isle of Wight had to be modified. Evidence has been adduced that bees with the same symptoms existed in Britain before 1904 and those mites have now been found in or on bees all over Europe.

Dr. Rennie gave the mite the name *Tarsonemus woodi* in honour of Mr. Wood, of Glassel. Later Mr. Stanley Hirst, mite specialist at the British Museum, decided that the mite belonged to a distinct genus and he introduced the name, "Acarapis woodi," the name still in use, in other words, "Wood's mite of the bee."

This scientific work was not only well done but rewarded with results of lasting value to beekeeping and the wider field of agriculture. To that team of workers we acknowledge our gratitude and today we take our hats off to the lady of the team, Miss Elsie J. Harvey.

—Scotland.

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Renew Your Subscription

December, 1949

ANNOUNCEMENT. . Please Take Notice

After 20 years as a partner in Weaver Apiaries, Howard Weaver is withdrawing and will in the future operate his own business as Howard Weaver.

This change has been made for convenience and not because of any friction.

For more than 15 years Howard has had charge of producing all the Caucasian queens sold by Weaver Apiaries. He will continue to produce high quality Caucasian queens and they may be had directly from him or through Weaver Apiaries.

Weaver Apiaries will continue as a partnership composed of Roy, Stanley and Binford Weaver. We will continue to supply our customers with high quality Italian and Caucasian queens and package bees. Your business is appreciated.

WEAVER APIARIES, Navasota, Texas

Season's Greetings

To our many friends in every state.
It has been a pleasure to serve you by the distribution of selected, improved DR stock during the year.

Further improvement has been recorded by the breeder stock tested. This will be used to rear better daughter queens for your use in 1950.

Results in your yard tell the story. Good stock is more vital than ever to meet the honey price situation.

Our service is yours. Do you know how we can help you?
Order early to assure delivery on your choice of dates.

IOWA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
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PLAN EARLY FOR 1950 PACKAGE BEES

OUTSTANDING STOCKS. (1) Our Regular Italian stock is continually forging ahead and giving excellent results. (2) A New Bee, a cross of THREE outstanding Italian Lines, Northern bred and tested D. R. stock. These are among the foremost stock on the market.

Let us figure with you for 1950.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

GARON BEE COMPANY, Donaldsonville, La., U.S.A.

BETTER BRED QUEENS

Thanks to our many customers for this season's business. Write us your requirements for 1950. We are ready to serve you.

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THREE-BANDED ITALIANS

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KNIGHT'S

Three Banded Leather Colored Italian Bees & Queens

I guarantee full weight packages, young laying queens, safe arrival, prompt service and your satisfaction.

No charge for clipping.

JOHN T. KNIGHT

Hayneville, Alabama

You get the results you want from an ad in the A-B-J

American Honey Institute

Christmas Greetings to you from the American Honey Institute! In this season of happiness and goodwill we want to send you every sincere wish for a merry and joyous Christmas, and a happy New Year.

God granting, the new year shall be a prosperous one for both the beekeeper and the American Honey Institute. Woven together by similar interests, both honeymen and the Institute should be able to work toward that ever-increased, ever-expanded Honey market so imperative to the welfare of the industry.

We are looking forward to another year of close friendship and mutual interests with the beekeeper.

Our Christmas Gift to You--Tucked down in the toe of your Christmas stocking this year we hope you will find the 1950 calendar published by the American Honey Institute. This calendar had such a great success in 1948 that we thought we would offer it to beekeepers again. Printed in folder form, it is wallet size, and has that little touch of honey promotion that so often does the job. Why not try giving a copy of it away with each jar of honey you sell in 1950? You'll be surprised at the results it will bring you.

A space has been left on the back page to allow the beekeeper to imprint his name. Price? \$1.00 per 100.

Ask for These--And while you are ordering, why not ask for your new price list? It is yours for the asking, and it is one way to make sure you can order the literature when you need it.

Have you remembered?--The 1949 directory of the American Honey Institute listing the names of paid up members of the Institute is published at the first of each year. To get your name included in this list your dues must be in by the end of December. This directory is sent to every paid up member of the Institute; it serves as a good way for one member-in-good-standing to know another.

Upon receipt of your dues you will receive a membership card which entitles you to all the privileges of the organization.

Hop on our magic carpet--We thought and thought this Christmas of what we might do for our mem-

Commercial State Bank Building, Madison 3, Wisconsin

bers and supporters in the honey industry, but we always arrived at the same conclusion. The best we could do for them was to keep on doing just exactly what we have been doing for the last twenty years—promote the use of your honey!

But as an extra sidelight this Christmas we would like to take you on a magic carpet trip through the American Honey Institute, something like the famous trip made by Alice in Wonderland. This fall many notables such as Dr. Scullen from Oregon, Mr. Miller from California, Dr. Arnoett from Canada, Mr. Huber Root from Ohio, Mr. Brown from Iowa, and Mr. Lewis Parks from Wisconsin came to visit us. They saw the work of the American Honey Institute in action. Because we wish every beekeeper could have the chance to see his Institute at work we are taking you on this word-picture tour of the Institute.

When you get off the elevator on the fourth floor of the Commercial State Bank Building in Madison, Wisconsin you walk around a short corridor until you come face to face with a door labeled in black and gold letters, American Honey Institute. You push it open and walk right in, for you have heard of the welcome you will receive within.

In a spacious office surrounded on three sides by windows, Mrs. Grace, the director of the Institute, works. The view from her office overlooks the State Capitol. It is in this office that the ideas originate, the work begins.

Four other separate offices plus three storerooms complete the setup. One of these rooms, the wrapping room, constantly is busy filling orders for recipe leaflets from all over the world.

On one table set in the corner of the room are samples of the literature that the Institute publishes. It takes three storerooms to hold the supply of recipe leaflets that are kept on hand. It is surprising how fast these supplies run low, how often the storerooms must be replenished with another reprint.

In one of the rooms the electric

mimeograph machine is set up. Off the cylinder of this machine come the releases that are sent out to newspapers, radio stations, magazines—the members' bulletin, special letters, recipe leaflets. The operation of this machine is an integral part of the honey promotion that flows from the Institute office.

An electric typewriter also contributes immensely to the speed with which honey promotion can be turned out. This typewriter makes a more legible type and lends itself to rapid typing.

If you look through the filing cabinets in one of the offices you will find they are bursting with requests from housewives, teachers, doctors, scientists, home demonstration agents and nurses for more honey information. These requests are filled immediately after every mail so that the honey information can be in the hands of the writer of the letter as soon as possible.

Another filing cabinet holds the tear sheets which are returned to this office by papers using Institute honey releases. After these tear sheets are answered, they are marked with a red pencil to show the amount of space that was given to honey, and mounted on a long roll of paper so they can be shown at beekeepers' meetings.

Coupons that are returned from those people reading our advertisements in professional magazines also are pasted on a long roll of paper. These coupons represent a tremendous response to an advertisement. The program of professional advertising as sponsored by the American Honey Institute has been a tremendously successful one.

No doubt one of the girls in the office will show you these rolls of tear sheets and coupons. And if you are like all other visitors to the office, you will be tremendously impressed by them.

Before you leave you will be tempted to take one last look at the beautiful view of the State Capitol from the front office. It seems only fitting for the American Honey Institute to be placed along side such a great building. The Institute itself has earned a reputation in the honey industry as being truly outstanding.



HONEY GRAHAM CRACKER SWIRLS

Generously swirl peanut butter in a mound on top of graham crackers. Using a spoon, make a small "well" in center of peanut butter spread cracker. Spoon Honey into center. Serve with milk.

More Comb Honey

Comb honey sells more quickly than extracted honey. Bulk comb honey in glass jars almost sells itself. People say "doesn't that look nice." Some prefer their honey separate and I can sell it to them in any way they want it.

I have one customer in Colorado who wants comb shipped in the frames, but I am afraid it will break down in shipment.

Comb honey brings me a better price. People know it is real honey.

If you want to sell honey put in some comb honey, if for nothing else but the display, and this will sell the extracted honey.

George P. Fabian, Oklahoma.

Feeding By Moonlight

Last winter I had to feed back as safeguard for stores, three to four full combs of honey to most colonies, about 100 in all. It was obvious that with nothing to work on and an all-around shortage wholesale robbing was about to commence. According to my information feeding back at night is the correct procedure and yet I was inclined to agree with Doolittle that it was annoying with bees crawling all over and flying into the light.

But I think I solved the problem to some extent by feeding on a bright, moonlight night. It was a pleasant experience to be able to leave the hives open, combs lying about and work in comfort and the apiary was in a normal state the next morning. Very little smoke is needed and with a full moon bees can be shaken in front of the hive and crawl back quietly without flying around. A pocket torch will enable one to examine brood combs if this is necessary. Light rubber gloves are a great boon.

I am so satisfied with this method that I am going to use it in lifting combs for extracting.

Clemens E. Schmidt,
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A new honey server that is ideal for every table. Pack honey in this server or sell it along with a larger container. A sure selling aid.

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Red, Green or Yellow Plastic Top

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The Most Modern Bee Breeding
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December, 1949

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??? 1950 ???

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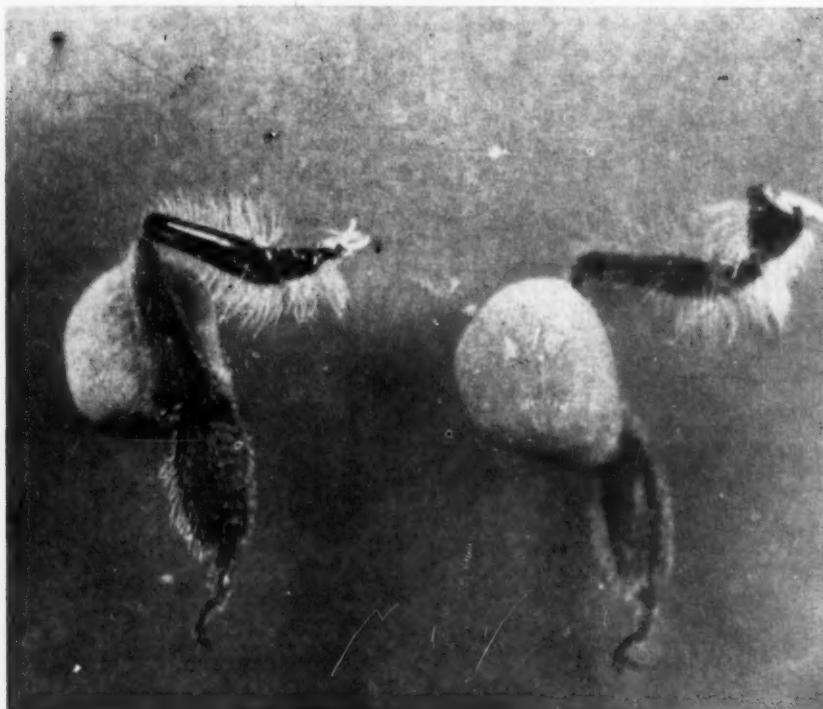
It's not to early to start to think about requeening.

Remember that the way to insure acceptance of the queen is through the use of the Ashurst Sureway Queen Introducing and Mailing Cage. Check those who have already used this cage and find out for yourselves why they will now use no other method for introducing.

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"Erector" Clover

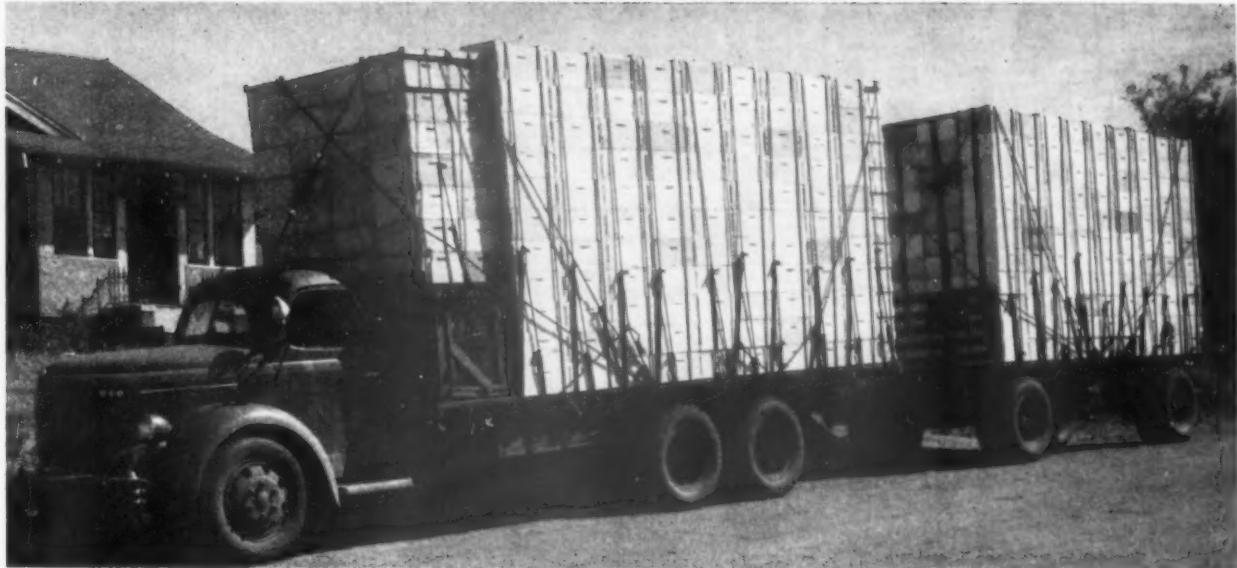
A new yellow-flowered sweet clover (above) comes from the Experiment Station at Brandon, Manitoba. No sweet clover is superior to this "Erector" clover and few are its equal on our grounds. It sets seed abundantly and gives about a month of honeyflow. Heavy leafage makes it desirable for pasture. It started to bloom on May 28 and continued to the end of June, covered with bees all that time.

On the Way North

Overbey Apiaries snaps "one day's shipping (of packages) during the early part of April. There are about fifty packages that are not on the buggies but are on the ground at the right hand end; total shipment six hundred for Canadian destinations." With increased express rates, what will shippers do now? And what will buyers do? Time to protest before it is too late.

Page Mr. Lucas!

Senator Scott W. Lucas, Democratic majority leader, was so anxious to know just how the honey bee really does the pollination job that we would like him to see (left, photo by Dr. J. E. Eckert, Calif.) how much pollen two hind bee legs can carry at a time. Scott Lucas, Edward Thye, Arthur Watkins, and other representatives did so much for honey price support and base tests for pollination that a little first-hand information should make them feel quite comfortable. When this pollen gets to the bloom on that commercial fruit tree, we'll send each of you a big, red, juicy apple!



Really Loaded to Go

Dr. J. E. Eckert sends this picture (above), probably two loads of supers for outyards. Although there was no information with the picture, we can use our imagination. The producing locations may be many miles away and perhaps the bees were moved there from the home location near the start of the flow to be supered heavily and left till the end of the crop. It is often the least expensive management.

The Producer-Packer

Rocke Brothers, at Eureka, Illinois, are efficient producers of fine grade table honey; they are also efficient packers and distributors, (trays of pound jars at right) not only of their own crops but often the crops of their neighbors. Orderly marketing will make beekeeping prosperous but that necessitates businesslike packing centers such as this in many places; not just a few. (Photo from "News and Views," Caterpillar Tractor Co., Peoria, Illinois).



Pity the Poor Drone

Gosh, yes! All he has to do is to eat, loaf, endure a gay love-life,—and die! Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc., caught this particular playfellow (right picture) in a commanding position and engaged in his beloved pastime, eating honey. Nature is ever prodigal when it comes to the perpetuation of life; many drones when few are needed; much pollen when little will do.



Electric Uncapping Knife



This knife heats in 15 seconds and operates with a steady heat regulated by an adjustable thermostat in the handle. No control boxes. New design in plastic handle.

110-115 V. AC only.
Cotton Cord \$13.50 while they last.
6-ft. rubber cord \$15.00.

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Ship Your

HONEY & BEESWAX
to us. Top prices paid, prompt remittance. Also welcome your old comb shipments to be rendered into wax at very nominal charge.

THE FRED. W. MUTH CO.
229 Walnut Street
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A Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Prosperous New Year to You All!

What more need be said at this season? But we might well pause and consider how much richer we are than we were a year ago. Not as men count riches, but in the things of eternal values. Friends we have gained. Our gifts to those less fortunate than we. The little helps we have extended our neighbors. And our exercise of virtues through which we are drawn into a closer walk with God. These are some of the true riches.

JENSEN'S APIARIES, Macon, Mississippi

Do You Know

That Woodman manufactures NINE different sizes and styles of Honey Extractors—Vane lifter type Honey Pumps—Automatic Pump Control Tanks—Brand Capping Melters and Power Uncappers. Many thousands of Bee Smokers, Bee Veils, Bee Gloves, numerous tools and other equipment. Send for printed matter, over 350 listings.

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Over 30 years a shipper.

Send for FREE CIRCULARS.

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ORIGINALLY
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Guaranteed to please
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Young untested sent by return
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Regular Italians and
Three-Way Hybrids

The Honey Producing Kinds

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American Bee Journal



1,001 BEE FACTS BETWEEN COVERS!

Allen Latham's Bee Book

Allen Latham, after 65 years of beekeeping, during which time he has attained a deserved reputation as one of the world's foremost authorities on bee behavior, was prevailed upon a year ago to write down, for this and succeeding generations of beekeepers, the most important facts he had learned in a long and closely observant lifetime with bees. The result is his first and only book, which Hale Publishing Co., Hapeville, Georgia, publishers of the magazine, "Bees", are proud to make available to beekeepers everywhere.

Years ago Latham hit upon what he considers the true cause of swarming. Thereafter, swarming in his apiaries never exceeded 5%. In his book he gives you a full explanation, now published for the first time.

Learn one of Latham's most closely guarded secrets—his 40-year secret for making honey butter (creamed honey), here revealed for the first time. This secret has been released for publication by his grandson, Allen Latham III, to whom it was originally given. Find out why Allen Latham's honey butter is so good that customers come back for more, year after year, in preference to commercial packs marketed under a well-known patent.

Over 200 pages, 27 chapters. Fine cloth binding.

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Some say swarming is caused by congestion in the broodnest...

READ WHAT LATHAM SAYS.

Some say the old queen leads out the swarm...

READ WHAT LATHAM SAYS.

Some say bees build six-sided cells because that shape is the most economical...

READ WHAT LATHAM SAYS.

Some say a queen drifting into the wrong hive will be killed...

READ WHAT LATHAM SAYS.

Some say bees can foretell the weather...

READ WHAT LATHAM SAYS.

Some say drones should be kept to minimum or eliminated...

READ WHAT LATHAM SAYS.

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Solve your holiday gift problem by giving a copy of Allen Latham's Bee Book to all beekeepers and honey customers on your gift list. We will notify on gift cards and wrap gift copies in special holiday dress at no extra charge.

ABJ-12-49

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Please send me Allen Latham's Bee Book, First Edition, illustrated, in cloth binding postpaid. I enclose \$2.95. (\$3.95 in Canada).

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1950 Quality

3-Banded Italians

Bred in the heart of Louisiana

2-lb. pkgs., 1 to 9, \$3.50; 10 or more \$3.25
3-lb. pkgs., 1 to 9, 4.25; 10 or more 4.10
4-lb. pkgs., 1 to 9, 5.00; 10 or more 4.85
Quality queens, 1 to 9, 95c each; 10 to 24, 90c each; 100, 80c each.

Central Louisiana Apiaries
MARKSVILLE, LOUISIANA



WEST COAST
BEEKEEPERS
Buy Quality
Lewis-Dadant
Products
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F. O. IRICK
609 S. H. St.
Tulare, California

READY NOW

Fine, young, newly mated Italian Queens. Don't let your colonies drift. Keep the bee population up.

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BUNKIE, LOUISIANA

CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

Canadian beekeepers have much in common with their neighbors in the U. S. If you are interested in bee activities "North of the Border," send us your subscription NOW. Subscription price, \$1.75 per year in U. S. A.

CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL
54 Bloor St. West, Toronto 5, Ontario

"Million of Honey in Our House"

Yes, you will be saying that if you try our proven queens and overweight package bees. Now booking orders for early spring delivery. Write for prices.

CAUCASIANS

ITALIANS

TROY H. NANCE

3764 JEFFREY AVE., SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Now booking orders for 1950 shipment

Get our prices on LIGHT ITALIAN BEES AND QUEENS

Will trade for some good grade honey.
Honey will have to be shipped in advance.

B. A. ANDERSON & CO.

Opp, Ala.

HONEY LABELS

Our honey labels will tell your honey story, by word and picture to encourage sales. Our sample label catalog is yours for the asking. Each label in complete color and each one separate (an actual label) to put on your container to see how it looks.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Hamilton, Illinois

Classified Advertisements

BEES AND QUEENS

BREWER LINE BRED Caucasian queens. We are booking orders for March 20, 1950. Write for prices. Member ABBA. Brewer Brothers Apiares, 3616 Caucasian Circle, Tampa 9, Florida.

THREE BANDED ITALIAN bees and queens for 1950. Write for prices. Alamanee Bee Company, Graham, North Carolina.

THREE-BANDED ITALIAN BEES and Queens for 1950. Queens, \$1.10 each. Packages with queens, 2-lb., \$3.50; 3-lb., \$4.50. Write for quantity discount and descriptive circular. Cottage Hill Apiares, Rt. 2, Mobile, Alabama.

PACKAGE BEES headed by Mountain Gray Caucasians or leather colored Italian queens. March 20 delivery. Write for prices. Twin Bee Co-op., 3616 Caucasian Circle, Tampa, Florida.

BRIGHT YELLOW and three band queens. Graydon Bros., Rt. 2, Greenville, Ala.

FOR SALE

SPECIAL—Want to raise your own package bees and queens? 1000 single nuclei boxes with feeders. Used one season. Made of cypress and treated with wood preservatives to last a lifetime. Painted white. Guaranteed no disease. Would sell one to two hundred hives with these. R. C. Daniels & Co., Picayune, Miss.

FOR SALE—11 colonies in 10-frame double hives. Lots of extra bodies, bottom boards, covers. Extractor, uncapping knife, feeders, veils, smokers. No disease. Complete outfit for beginner. Clark Jenkins, Shipman, Illinois.

FOR SALE OR LEASE—Seven to eight hundred colonies bees in ten-frame equipment located in Iowa. Sufficient full depth bodies with combs to equip all four high. Want to contract for delivery April 15th to May 1st after southern build-up completed. Will lease for 50% of crop or sell on good terms to reliable party. Box S. H., care American Bee Journal.

100 COLONIES BEES 1½ story, young queens, plenty stores, inspected, Citrus groves. \$10.00. Hubert Martin, Pharr, Texas.

150 colonies and equipment. Write for information. Whitacre Apiares, State College, R. D., Pennsylvania.

FOR SALE—Attractive duplex home and honey house with lake frontage in Clermont, Florida, citrus country. With or without bees. Wilbert Wahl, Clayton, New York.

500 OR MORE COLONIES fully equipped. One dollar each, balance less than rent. Good equipment. Good producing locations. L. D. Taylor, Harlan, Iowa.

IN FLORIDA 800 1½-story colonies, \$10.00 each. Cypress hives, combs in good condition, all young queens. With six frames of brood or more, and ready for production. No disease or junk. Extra equipment below cost. Box 160, care American Bee Journal.

BEES FOR SALE in ten-frame standard hives, one or two story, and any number. Good condition, part have young queens. \$5.00 (five) per hive and up, according to size and number. T. L. Nicolaysen, Salida, California.

HONEY and BEESWAX WANTED

WANTED—Comb honey and extracted honey, large or small amounts. Send price list and samples. R. A. Raley, Box 2263, Daytona Beach, Florida.

HONEY AND WAX WANTED. Mail sample. Advise quantity. Bryant & Sawyer, 2425 Hunter St., Los Angeles, Calif.

Copy for this department must reach us not later than the tenth of each month preceding date of issue. If intended for classified department it should be so stated when advertisement is sent.

Rate of Classified advertising—13 cents for each word, letter, figure or initial, including the name and address. Minimum ad, ten words.

As a measure of precaution to our readers we require reference of all new advertisers. To save time, please send the name of your bank and other references with your copy.

Advertisers offering used equipment or bees on comb must guarantee them free from disease or certificate of inspection from authorized inspector. The conditions should be stated to insure that buyer is fully informed.

WANT TO BUY light amber southern honey, preferably from Tupelo and from the states of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Send sample and price delivered. R. C. Daniels & Co., Picayune, Mississippi.

HONEY WANTED—All grades and varieties. Highest cash price paid. Mail samples. State quantity. HAMILTON & COMPANY, 1360 Produce Street, Los Angeles, California.

WANTED—All grades comb and extracted honey, large or small amounts. Quote price in first letter. Mail sample. King Honey Co., 326 Bales St., Kansas City, Mo.

WANTED—Honey and wax—any quantity. Send samples and prices. Alexander Company, 819 Reynolds Road, Toledo 7, Ohio.

HONEY FOR SALE

RASPBERRY BLOSSOM HONEY—Fine quality and flavor. 60-lb. can, \$9.00; 5-lb. pail, \$1.20. You pay shipping charges. Frank Reith, Boyd, Wisconsin.

300 60-lb. cans of light amber honey, \$6.00 per can. Home Nursery, Cuba, Kansas.

OCH AYE, Pure Scotch Heather Honey. 5-lbs. post free, \$3.50. Badgerell Apiares, Kings Langley, England.

FOR SALE—400 cases Buckwheat comb honey. Edgar Williams, Pierpont, Ohio.

FOR SALE—35 60-lb. cans of light amber honey, \$6.00 per can. F. O. B. truck Putnam. Walter I. Wright, Putnam, Ill.

MICHIGAN finest clover and amber honey in sixties. Arthur Thayer & Sons, 2122 Ames, Saginaw, Michigan.

CLOVER HONEY in new 60-lb. cans, 12c. Order from ad. Ohmert Bee Farms, Dubuque, Iowa.

NEW CROP CLOVER HONEY, white, extra good flavor, 15c per lb. in 60's. Loose Brothers, 206 E. Jefferson, Louisville, Ky.

FLORIDA WHITE TUPELO, the world's finest honey—pure orange blossom honey—white clover, and buckwheat honey shipped in barrels, 60-pound tins, gallon cans, or in glass by the case. Pure maple syrup. Alexander Company, 819 Reynolds Road, Toledo Ohio.

NEW CROP OF HONEY shipped daily from producer in Florida. Pure orange blossom, 5-lb. pail \$2.25. Pure Florida cut comb honey, 5-lb. pail \$2.75. No. C.O.D. orders; all shipments prepaid. E. R. Raley, Box 1610, Daytona Beach, Florida.

POSITIONS AND HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED—State bee and truck experience, age, weight, height, wages expected. Stewart Apiares, Fairfax, Mo.

WANTED

WANTED—Hive and frame machinery, new or second hand. Earl Manear, Thornton, West Virginia.

WANTED—Good 10-frame empty bee supplies. John Sueper, Webster City, Iowa.

WANTED—Extracted honey, white or light amber, in 60's. State price in first letter. Ed. Heidt, 1004 W. Washington St., Bloomington, Illinois.

TEXAS BEES WANTED—Describe equipment. State price. Box EST, care American Bee Journal.

WANTED—Used 10-frame bee equipment. State age, condition, source, price, dovec-tailed. Ed Stewart, Fairfax, Mo.

SUPPLIES

OUR FREE BEE SUPPLY CATALOGUE. Lists double boilers, special motors, blowers, etc., not listed by others. We manufacture bee hives, wired and plain foundation, tanks and extractors, etc. Quick delivery from stock. Walter Kelley Co., Paducah, Kentucky.

YOUR WAX WORKED into quality medium brood foundation for 23c pound; 100 pounds \$19.00. Fred Peterson, Aiden, Iowa.

CLEAN UP AFB with sulfa. 25 tablets 50c; \$1.00; 100, \$1.50; 1,000, \$6.00. Free Circular, quick shipment. WALTER T. KELLEY CO., PADUCAH, KENTUCKY.

BEE SUPPLIES—Lewis Woodenware—Dadant's Foundation. Send for catalog. Simeon Beller, Intercourse, Pennsylvania.

FOR SALE—25,000 mill run Lewis sections 3½x5x1½ scalloped 4 sides ½ inch at \$14.00 per thousand, f.o.b. Hamilton, Ill. Dadant & Sons, Hamilton, Illinois.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE. Quality bee supplies at factory prices. Prompt shipment. Satisfaction guaranteed. The Hubbard Apiares. Manufacturers of Bee-keepers' Supplies, Onsted, Michigan.

HIVE BODIES, covers and bottom boards bee shipping cages and nuclei hives. All supplies new and knocked down. Price list furnished on request. A & B Supply Company, Coffee Springs, Alabama.

THE ONLY COMB FOUNDATION PLANT in the East. We sell foundation, work your wax, render combs and cappings. Twenty-nine years' experience. Robinson's Wax Works, Rt. No. 3, Auburn, N. Y.

SEEDS AND TREES

BUTTONBUSH, (Cephalanthus occidentalis). Read page 523, November American Bee Journal. Four 12-18 inch postpaid. \$1.20; 50 for \$11.00. Free illustrated nectar and pollen folder. Nicollet County Nursery, St. Peter, Minnesota.

TRY WAGNER PEA, long lived, heavy producing forage and honey plant. See page 472, October American Bee Journal. Seed, ¼ pound, \$1.00; pound, \$2.50; five pounds, \$10.00. Postpaid. Melvin Pellett, Atlantic, Iowa.

STUDY YOUR CONDITIONS—plan for better BEE PASTURE. Free circular "SEEDS OF HONEY PLANTS." Melvin Pellett, Atlantic, Iowa.

DAIRY GOAT

CASH from your spare time. Raise dairy goats! Magazine tells how. Send for FREE copy. Dairy Goat Journal, Columbia 2A, Missouri.

HONEY LABELS

Improved designs, embodying color, balance, simplicity, and distinction. Please send for free samples & prices.

C. W. AEPPLER COMPANY
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

MISCELLANEOUS

KNOW interesting facts concerning the bees of India through the INDIAN BEE JOURNAL, published in English, by the Phupen Apiaries (Himalayas), Ramgarh, Dist. Nainital, U. P., India and obtainable from them. Subs. Rs 7/- or 10 Shillings or 2.25 Dollars per annum. Single copy Rs 1/4-s. 1/9 or 49 cents (international money order). Payment in mint postage stamps of your country accepted.

RANCH MAGAZINE—Do you find it difficult to secure information about sheep and sheep ranching methods? The SHEEP AND GOAT RAISER reaches more sheepmen with more information or range sheep than any magazine published. Subscription \$1.00 Hotel Cactus, San Angelo, Texas.

THE BEE WORLD—The leading bee journal in Great Britain and the only international bee review in existence. Specializes in the world's news in both science and practice of apiculture. Specimen copy, post free, 12 cents, stamps. Membership of the Club including subscription to the paper 10/6. The Apis Club, The Way's End, Foxton, England.

THE HIVE AND THE HONEYBEE—Edited by Roy Grout. Fifteen other authoritative contributors. Here is a real text book. Brand new. Cloth 870 pages, hundreds of pictures. No bee library is complete without it. Subjects by chapters with cross-index. \$4.00.

DADANT & SONS, Inc. Hamilton, Illinois

A LIVING FROM BEES by Frank C. Pellett. His new 1946 book for all beekeepers. Combining results of many years' experience with latest developments and improvements in beekeeping. A complete guide. 310 pages. Cloth. \$2.50

Italian Bees and Queens FOR 1950

We plan to offer the best Bees and Queens at the lowest possible price. Write for details.

A. M. PEACH
BALDWYN, MISSISSIPPI



To Our Friends and Customers

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR

Southland Apiaries
MONTGOMERY & SON
Ball, Louisiana, U. S. A.

HONEY WANTED
Carloads and less than carloads.
Mail sample and best prices in all
grades.
C. W. AEPPLER COMPANY
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

Winter Packing

I have used this method for two years. I find it saves a lot of time, is compact, gives about as much insulation as any other way. I use Langstroth hives with two hive bodies for winter and employ $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch weather-proofed Cellotex sheathing 2 ft. x 8 ft. cutting panels $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wider than the sides of the hive to fit flush up to the top and a half inch below the bottom board. Then I cut a panel to cover the back and edges of the two side pieces and finally a front panel which fits inside the edges of the side pieces and flush against the face of the hive with necessary cutouts for winter flights.

I then place several thicknesses of newspaper over the hive inside the cover, put the cover back on so that it is now flush with the edges of the insulation. I also use a half-inch Cellotex between the bottom board and the hive stand. I make a cover of heavy tax paper to place over the top and use corner angles of sheet metal 2x2 with wire to go around the packing material and to make a neat tight insulation.

By storing the insulating parts you can use the same material year after year and it goes on and off pretty fast.

Le Roy R. Huntley, Illinois.

Wanted

Clemens E. Schmidt, Ngapala, via Hampden, South Australia, says that since the death of Tyler Stockwell in San Bernardino in 1942, he has been without an American correspondent. Any California resident who wishes to exchange letters, seeds or magazines with him should drop him a line; preferably married men between thirty to forty running one-man outfits.

Recent German Bee Books

"Leitfaden einerzeitgemassen Bienezucht" is by our old acquaintance Dr. Enoch Zander, 1948 issue. A quite thorough 169 page paper edition on various phases of beekeeping.

"Imkerfreund Taschenbuch 1949" by E. Herold, as its name implies is a chronology of suggested work in the apiary, with a calendar for the year for better following the procedure.

An Opportunity for Honey Promotion

(Continued from page 562)

tute where Mrs. Phyllis Huffman answered questions and sold honey recipe booklets. It is unfortunate that the Institute can't make a display at all state fairs.

Booth Exhibits

One entire side of the building was occupied by booths as shown in the pictures.

One of the busiest spots was Walter Diehnelt's Honey Acres exhibit, (not shown) where not only honey but candied honey and honey candy was sold. Beyond this exhibit was a kitchen in which ham sandwiches and coffee were prepared and sold.

Purpose of the Fair Exhibit

What is the object of a county or state fair? That is a question being asked by many people these days. Times and methods change. The interest of fair visitors has changed. Successful fairs meet these changing conditions. Neatness, cleanliness, and good showmanship are essential to attract visitors.

The primary function of fairs are education, recreation and promotion. Unless agricultural exhibits are educational and promotional they have little value.

The fairs offer beekeepers the opportunity to promote honey at a profit.

Wisconsin.

Bees On Your Table

No beekeeper need ever be short of rations, that is if he follows the custom of the Chinese and serves fried bees. They are said to be very delicious when cooked in butter.

In Yunnan province there are a species of ground bees, whose nests are found in the sand at the edge of streams. The choicest of these are in the Kochiu district and they are exported throughout the country.

Their sting is considered to be dangerous and they are plucked before cooking. When fried they become very crisp and tasty.

In Shanghai they sell at sixty cents a plate in the restaurants. They are listed on the menu as "fan-tse."

Foreigners in China are said to be very fond of this dish, though we are not informed as to whether they are aware of its contents.

Irene Craig Neil, Ontario.

The Postscript

An unusual memorial to one of its members has been issued by the Staffordshire Beekeepers Association, of England. Joseph Price, who died in 1947, had been a beekeeper for sixty years and had contributed extensively to the press for a long period of time. Selections from his writings were compiled in the form of a book to cover a year of beekeeping. Each month is divided into first, second, third, and fourth week with comments suited to that special season.

This book entitled, "Price on Beekeeping" is unlike any other that we have seen, offering a calendar for the beekeeping year. Apparently it is published for the members of the organization and not offered for general sale.

In view of the widespread interest in pollination and the importance of wild bees it is not surprising that much attention is now given to the study of the habits of these insects. In North Dakota, Dr. O. A. Stevens is publishing a series of papers on the native bees. Present day agricultural practice is rapidly reducing the number of wild bees and it is important that more people become familiar with their habits and with the service which they perform. As their numbers are reduced we become more and more dependent upon the honey bee for the distribution of pollen which is essential in the fertilization of flowers.

John E. Johnson calls attention to the fact that while basswood only blooms for ten days to two weeks, vitex is in flower for three months. On October 12, he counted 23 racemes on one small tree about three feet high. Rarely do the bees visit the flowers of any tree as freely as they do the vitex. Unfortunately it is not dependably hardy north of Missouri. Johnson has planted several hundred trees for his bees.

Max Mueller, of Campbellsport, Wisconsin, suggests as a slogan the short and suggestive, "Sweeten with Honey." Not a bad slogan—short, direct and clear. Does anyone have a better one? I. B. Roberts, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, says: "Honey that sweet tooth."

Frank C. Pellett

From Louis F. Cox, of Lexington, Missouri, comes a report of a fall crop of honey from aster mixed with honeydew from willow. The willows were small, about the size of bean poles and the bark was gray with plant lice. The honeydew was so abundant that it ran down the stems of the trees and wet the ground at the base. The honeydew had a bitter twang with a taste of the willow bark but when mixed with honey from aster was not unpleasant and was well liked by his customers.

Cox makes some interesting comments on the attraction to the bees of different plants in his neighborhood. He says that anise-hyssop has failed to show much attraction for three successive years and that sweet clover has failed to yield much nectar over the same period. Meadow sage has attracted the bees in large numbers for two seasons as has the Chapman Honey Plant (*Echinops*). At times he has seen as many as five bees on one flower head at one time.

The Chapman Honey Plant has aroused the interest of beekeepers for many years and took on some appearance of a boom about fifty years ago. It is reported as a silage crop in some central European countries where the cows are said to increase the milk flow when feed upon it. My interest has recently been aroused in a new species of *Echinops* from southern Turkey which is unknown in this country. The flower heads are much larger than either of the species tried in our test garden. Our species have flower clusters like pin cushions about two inches in diameter. This one from Turkey is said to have similar clusters six inches in diameter. What a spectacular flower that would be.

Jesse J. Hooker, of Eugene, Oregon, bought four colonies of bees in 1896 and started his career as a beekeeper. He wonders how many readers of this page have kept bees for fifty years or more. If they were not so widely scattered it would be interesting to have a fifty year club with an

occasional meeting. Hooker reports having cut more than 100 bee trees. That sounds to me like a record. In all my life I have seen less than half that many bee trees to the best of my memory. Here in the Midwest stray swarms are more likely to be found in house walls than in trees.

E. D. Wirth, of Brooklyn, New York, writes that his bees are located in a mixed grove of Ailanthus and black locust but that he has not seen bees on the Ailanthus, which in many places is called "Tree of Heaven." In his neighborhood it is called "stinkweed" because of the foul odor of the leaves when crushed.

There are reports of heavy yields of nectar from this tree in some areas. There is some prejudice against it because the honey is ill-tasting when first extracted. Perhaps Wirth is fortunate that it does not yield in his neighborhood.

From Ireland comes the report that the new clover, *Trifolium ambiguum*, which my friends are calling "Pellett Clover," attracts the bees at lower temperatures than other clovers. This is a point that we had failed to notice but which may yet prove to be very important. In many northern localities a honeyflow is often cut short by a spell of cool weather. This clover is found growing wild far to the north in Europe and it is easy to understand why it might yield nectar under conditions which are unfavorable for species which are native to more southerly regions.

Konrad Halle, of Seaford, New York, sends me a newspaper clipping telling of a death at Salisbury, Connecticut, from the sting of a wasp. The victim died within about twenty minutes of the time of receiving the sting. The attending physician reported the effect of the sting as having caused the lungs of the patient to fill with water so that he drowned. Persons who are sensitive to bee stings often have difficulty in breathing because of the tendency of the lungs to fill with liquids from the body. Fortunately such severe cases are rare but those who suffer unduly from stings should avoid taking chances.

THE BEST PACKAGES OBTAINABLE

Rich's Heavy Italian or Caucasian Packages with Queens

| | 2-lb. | 3-lb. | 4-lb. |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1-25 | \$3.50 | \$4.50 | \$5.25 |
| 25 up | 3.00 | 4.00 | 4.75 |

The Rich Honey Farms
JEANERETTE, LOUISIANA

LOOK TO
Evangeline Bee Company
BREAUX BRIDGE, LOUISIANA
for your 1950

Package Bees and Queens

McCORD FRAME-GRIP



Saves time and energy for beekeepers large or small. A light weight handy instrument used for loosening and removing the frames from the hive with one hand.
Price \$3.00 plus 10c postage fee. Satisfactory dealer discounts.

McCORD MFG. CO.

RT. 2, BOX 866, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

HONEY EXTRACTING and PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

WRITE TO

The Neises Company
P. O. BOX 249, MARSHFIELD, WIS.

GOOCH QUEENS
Italian—Caucasian
1 to 50, \$1.00 each
51 and up, 75 cents each

Jesse E. Gooch & Sons
RT. NO. 3, PINE BLUFF, ARK.

Package Bees and Queens

Two Pound Package \$3.00 with Queen
Three Pound Package 4.00 with Queen
Four Pound Package 5.00 with Queen

ROY APIARIES
HESSMER, LOUISIANA

Renew Your Subscription

December, 1949

Season's Greetings

To one and all, we extend our sincere wishes for the MERRIEST CHRISTMAS and the HAPPIEST of NEW YEARS

.... Prosperity—that elusive goal we strive to attain seems ever 'around the corner.' Perhaps 1950 will truly become the dawn of a new era in Beekeeping. Let's all direct our energies toward that reality.

THE DIAMOND MATCH COMPANY

APIARY SUPPLIES
LOS ANGELES 21, or CHICO, CALIFORNIA

STOLLER Slip-on FRAMESPACER

LESS WORK MORE PROFITS

Now used everywhere as essential equipment. Sixteen styles to fit any standard frame. Write for details, prices.



STOLLER  **Honey Farms**

LATTY,
OHIO

In CHICAGO IT'S **S. T. FISH & CO.** Inc. FOR HANDLING YOUR HONEY

EXTRACT 60-LB. CANS — COMB
Know the Honey Business — Would Like Your Business
Phone No. 6-1910, Address 1421 S. Aberdeen St., Chicago 8, Illinois
Members Illinois Beekeepers Association

First Quality—Leather Colored

Italian Package Bees and Queens

John S. Shackelford

RIO OSO, CALIF.

BEE SUPPLIES

A. H. Rusch & Son Co.
MANUFACTURERS—JOBBERS
REEDSVILLE, WISCONSIN

GOOD NEWS

For bee buyers—bad for shippers. We are going to slap the price down on the start and keep them down. If you are in the market for 100 or more packages or queens, make offer.

GULF COAST BEE CO., Schriever, Louisiana

All Around the Bee Yard

November 28th used to be a winter morning but it is not that today. Bright sunshine seems to be slowly slanting up behind the hill and the bees are poised at entrances, ready for a flight. The entire fall has been comfortable weather. Probably, as this is clicking from the typewriter keys, North Wind is filling his cheeks, with a twinkle in his eye, ready to blow a different tune.

We are still "laying away" the bees. Thanksgiving day we took extra supers and some honey from two yards. The bees were low in the hives and in two hours in each yard, it was easy to remove the supers with no flight, no bees to bother, and little disturbance. Weather just right. A weather-wise beeman who plans work to suit the moods of season and temperature can reduce his work considerably by doing certain jobs under just the right conditions.

Every hive now has a middle entrance. I use the old style Dadant hive because at the start of my keeping bees in the Middle West I was able to buy the bees in this hive at a price advantage. Now I prefer them to other hives. A rim extends around the hive body near the top edge and the deep cover rests on this rim. Under the cover is a full shallow super of honey for added winter stores. The "top" entrance is made by boring a three quarter inch hole in the hive body just under this cover rim and in the center as measured from side to side. Many a warmish winter day, bees can be seen loafing and moving inside this entrance. The bottom entrance is closed except for a center slot, bee space deep and three inches wide. Seems to me we have had less winter trouble of any kind with this arrangement.

Commenting on the top entrance, Louis F. Cox, Lexington, Missouri, says, "I, too, use the top entrance and the result has been good wintering. My top entrance is a notch cut in the front rim of the inner cover, with the regular center escape hole left open and the outer cover shoved forward. Such colonies often crowd the queens in the lower body (two bodies for winter) by storing early

G. H. Cale

pollen above. Sometimes the top body will be crowded with pollen and all the late brood will be in the bottom hive."

Good wintering is more the result of satisfactory colony conditions than it is of natural protection or packing (perhaps even the use of a cellar). A good queen is half of what it takes to winter well. And one thing that helps most is late, heavy brood rearing so there will be "lots and lots" of young, vigorous bees for the winter cluster. Add an abundance of high-quality stores (no unripe honey, honeydew or honey high in undigestible content), right over the heads of the bees where they can rise slowly through rich honey, covering an abundance of pollen, and no desperate outside weather can kill the bees.

It is fascinating to hear a successful producer-packer ask. "What's all this fuss about government supports and honey prices? I am buying honey. Mine is all sold and can't get enough." One effect of price support, however, that even the satisfied distributor may lose sight of is the fact that with a future minimum price guarantee, all honey available for markets tends to rise to that price. Producers can hold and buyers must offer more. That stabilizes. If honey selling is then what it should be there will be very little honey that the government will have to buy.

There is still a big field of merchandising in source honeys. Several skillful distributors have built a substantial business in selling honey according to its source—orange, clover, "wild flower," choice foreign honey, tupelo, sourwood. For the down-to-the-bottom, all-the-time, city market, a dependable blend is probably best, one that can be repeated over and over again. There is no end to what we can do to sell honey . . . if we would only do it!

The fact that GH, Jr. does not use honey in the diet of that new grandson of mine, really is heaping abuse

on him. The latest is from J. H. Davis, inspector of apiaries, in Arkansas.

Shame on you, Mr. Cale, and on your truant son

We have honey for sale, do you "no have the mon?"

What's that you say? You have like hay, bales and bales of money?

Did you not know, a child to grow, needs pep produced from honey? You know that children's pabulum is better food with honey.

No wonder then you seem so glum; such tragedy's not funny.

Yet you say you are aware that honey to a growing tot

Adds health and zest and shows a care that many children haven't got.

And you say a child thus strong, can likely in life's rapid pace

Be a leader of the throng, and thus raise the bee to a proper place.

Then thus remind your truant son his duties to do better

And honey feed to everyone, both son and missis, to the letter.

"Sulfathiazole Control of American Foulbrood"

This is the title of Circular 341 of the University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Agricultural Experiment Station, issued in September and written by Leonard Haseman.

To quote "During the last five years the use of sulfathiazole in the fight against American foulbrood has literally swept this country and is also being used quite generally in many foreign honey producing countries. It has already saved American beekeepers thousands of hives and productive colonies and millions of pounds of honey."

The present brief 8-page report has been prepared as an up-to-the-minute instruction on the proper method of using sulfathiazole. The new bulletin covers the effect of sulfa drug on bacteria, the use of sulfathiazole as a cure and as a preventive of American foulbrood with a summary at the end of the contents and advice to the beekeeper.

Copies of this bulletin, Circular 341, may be obtained from University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Columbia, Missouri.

Queens Replace that failing queen now with our fine 3-Banded Italian Queens noted for their productivity, hardiness and vitality. A strain developed through years of segregation and selective line breeding. 75c each.

B. J. Bordelon Apiaries
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Crop and Market

Government Estimate Too High?

The government stated not long ago in its preliminary report for the 1949 crop, some 10 per cent increase over 1948. There have been a number of letters to this office criticizing the report as being too optimistic. Our reporters are "on the fence." In the better producing areas, there is no doubt that there is at least a 10 per cent larger crop than last year. However, even in these sections, some reports indicate that there were fewer bees in 1949 than in 1948 to gather the crop and this fact arises when the government figures are taken into consideration. As a general thing, we believe the beekeepers of the country do not anticipate as big an increase in crop as was indicated by the initial government figures. Perhaps these figures will be weighted when final figures are established later and all consideration has been given to the number of colonies of actively producing bees.

How Is Honey Selling?

Quite contrary to conditions a year ago and even a few months ago, our reporters are indicating that honey is selling fairly well, although many reports of slow sales still come, particularly from the intermountain areas and the Pacific Coast.

On the whole, however there seems to have been an extra impetus to honey demand as the fall season approached. This is probably due to added effort on the part of individual beekeepers as well as the large cooperatives and commercial bottlers; and partly due to a return to honey by many folks who temporarily dropped it when sugar again became available. No doubt the good work of the American Honey Institute is a prime factor.

In southern areas the demand for the chunk comb pack has been so good that many smaller producers and packers already are running out, and no doubt very little chunk honey will be available after the holidays.

In addition, we have several reports of bakeries coming back to the use of honey after abandoning it during the shortages. All in all, we would state that conditions are at least as normal as they were before the war and postwar periods.

M. G. Dadant

Is Price Activity Stiffening?

There is very little if any indication that the passage of the Bill with price support for honey has had any effect upon the stiffening of the price. Most packers had been well fortified with ample supplies of honey for the fall season before the Bill was finally passed and at this date when the packer is not particularly active, the honey producer on his part is less inclined to sell at the lower figures. Unfortunately, much white honey previously had been sold at as low figures as 8 to 8½ cents.

Offers On Honey

Of course, a buyer who considers the competition involved will not offer more than he anticipates his competitor will pay for honey, and we are still hearing of some offers as low as 8 cents for white honey and 1 to 2 cents less for amber honey. However, the bulk of the offers range around 9½ to 11 cents for good white honey and 1 to 2 cents less on amber. F. O. B. producer's shipping point. Amber is comparatively scarce this year, owing to the partial failure of fall crops throughout the north central areas. In the Canadian provinces, owing to at least a 25 per cent smaller crop than in 1948, there has been a stiffening of prices. While earlier, 10 to 12 cents was offered for honey, the buyers now are inclined to come more in line with what the producers would desire which would be a price of from 12 to 15 cents in bulk.

Retail Prices

Again we have extreme variations in retail prices; they are high in the East, and progressively lower as one goes westward. The southeastern states, in fact the whole South, have maintained quite well their satisfactory prices on retail packages of honey. Prices are better than in the northern areas, even on the liquid package. The comb package, of course, always has sold at a higher price, and it is now also selling extremely well. It leads one to question whether it would not be a paying

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proposition for some northern producers, who could properly equip themselves, to go into the packaging of bulk comb honey. Some are already producing comb honey for southern packers. However, this can be overdone, we believe. Such southern chunk honey as has gone into the northern markets seems to meet an extremely ready reception. The only question is, "will the pack hold up" at granulation time?

As a general rule, retail prices in eastern states will range from 22 to 28 cents for single pounds and from 90 cents to \$1.50 for 5-pound pails, with just a few pails of shipped in honey from western areas going as low as 69 cents for 5-pound pails. However, this is definitely an amber grade and no doubt will not meet with favorable reception on the part of local consumers. In our own town, 69 cent 5-pound pails are selling slowly whereas \$1.00 to \$1.25 can be obtained for local honey with which the population is acquainted.

As we go westward, there is a slowing of the prices until we reach the inter-mountain areas particularly where 5-pound pails are retailing as low as 65 cents with the bulk around 85 to 90 cents.

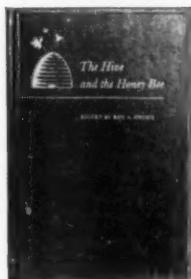
We apparently are reaching a market in which all the comb honey that might be produced would have a favorable reception and at a price which would compare favorably with its cost of production. By this we mean that single sections of honey are retailing all the way from 35 cents to 60 cents, with the average at around 45 cents. This compares quite favorably with pound jars at 25 cents or less.

Summary

We consider that honey is moving quite satisfactorily and that prices will be inclined upward rather than downward as the season advances, with the hope that perhaps government purchases may not be necessary, particularly if the producers and packers make definite efforts to expand their markets by advertising and by pushing the honey as it should be pushed. We need to follow the example of the southeastern states who are clearing all their honey off the market, probably largely due to the chunk package and to the population accepting honey as one of their necessary sweets.

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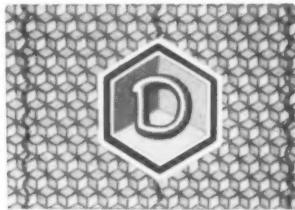
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